

The meeting of the Cemetery Council was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Michael Tardif at the Holy Rosary Parish Center in Caribou. The meeting was opened with a prayer said by all.

The following were in attendance:

- Mike Tardif, Vice Chairman
- Michael Lagasse, Business Coordinator
- Gregory Plourde, St. Theresa
- Bob LeBlanc, Holy Rosary
- Fr. Jean-Paul Labrie, Pastor

Absent from this meeting: George Baker, St. Marks; Betty Thompson, Sacred Heart; John Powers, St. Mary's; Corinne Pelletier, St. Marks/LOL Portage; Harold Cote, Sacred Heart; Jim Pelkey & Dan Lalonde, St. Louis.

It was moved by Greg Plourde minutes from August meeting be accepted as written 2nd by Bob Leblanc to accept the minutes as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Since our last meeting we have installed the new cemetery sign at St Denis Riverside and had the roof for the Sacred Heart vault done. The costs were as follows \$500.00 for the sign and \$1980.00 for the vault roof. These monies have been taken from site savings to pay for these items.

FINANCIAL REVIEW: Financial report was given by Business coordinator. Year to date as of 10/13/2016 the overall results show the cemeteries in the Red by (-\$642.00) This is not good but we are heading in the right direction because at this time last year we were in the Red by (-\$7,611.00). A huge step in the right direction. By site St. Denis, St. Marks, St. Mary and St. Theresa are the sites where expenses exceed income.

DISCUSSIONS: Looking at the numbers presented the Business coordinator presented a recommendation for an increase in Cemetery schedule of fees ranging from 5 to 10% for services. We have in the past budgeted misc. income i.e. fundraising events to balance budget and they have not happened as needed. Each year we come close but always fall short of our goal to have a positive year. The only income we can count on is collections and our schedule of fees. We cannot control collection numbers but we can control our fee schedule. Last increase was made in 2013 and we need to seriously consider updating our fees. This can put us in higher cost area than other local cemeteries but we need to pay our expenses and need to focus on that rather than being competitive.

As we did not have a quorum at this meeting we looked at two options. Meet again in January to finalize this or do it via emails. The consensus by all present send info to all by email and ask they either agree, disagree or want to meet to discuss. We will proceed once we have the needed responses to form a quorum. As of Oct. 28 6 of out of 10 council members have responded agreeing with the need for a change in the schedule of fees. So based on our previous discussion a new schedule will be prepared For our January meeting and will be finalized at that time

We also needed to address term expirations/renewals of members Harold Cote and Jim Pelkey. Neither were present so this will have to go to next meeting. Only member of the Executive committee was the Vice Chair Mike Tardif. He agreed to stay on as Vice Chair and willing to volunteer for the Chair if George Baker no longer wishes to act in that capacity. Executive group status will be addressed also at the next meeting.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 5:30 PM at Holy Rosary.

Closing prayer was said by all.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted:
Michael Lagasse, Business Coordinator