

Fairlawn Cemetery Association

PO Box #115
Scio, NY 14880

Wednesday October 29th, 2025

The Scio Fairlawn Cemetery meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Dan Lounsberry at Dan's home. Board members present were: Dan Lounsberry (president), Dennis White (vice-president), Tristen Woodruff (treasurer), Sharon Washer (secretary), Ron Washburn (sexton), Donna Dean, Marcia Habberfield and Lou Ann Slocum (trustees). The minutes, having read previously, motion to approve these as read was made by Lou Ann Slocum, second by Donna Dean. Carried by all present.

Sexton Report

1. Ron informed us that 4 people were buried in October (Argie J. Jandrew, Vera Klesa Buckley, John C. Hinkle Jr. and Jacqueline M. Glover. Four new foundations were also poured in October. Information included.
2. Ron reported that the water at the cemetery will be shut off at the cemetery by November 1st, 2025..
3. Donna Dean made a motion to accept the sexton report, seconded by Marcia Habberfield. Carried by all present.

Treasurer's Report

1. Tristen's Treasurer's Report #8 is included.
2. Tristen shared the Scio Fairlawn Cemetery Income/Expenses from September 24th to October 29th, 2025. These are included.
3. The NYS-45, the form 941 and the form 990-EZ (online) was sent in October.
4. The cemetery Sloppy Joe dinner held on October 15th, 2025 made a profit of \$1,400.54.
5. The committee decided that it made more sense that Dennis White (instead of Tristen Woodruff) picks up the cemetery mail from the Post Office box. Dennis will make copies of the checks and give them to Dan Lounsberry to deposit. Dan will contact Tristen to keep him updated. This will eliminate some of the miscommunication. Tristen gave the cemetery's post office key to Dennis.

6. Dennis agreed to contact Olney-Foust Funeral Home (Dillon Faust and Chad Green) to remind them that the cemetery has to receive the funds before we can put in foundations.
7. Tristen Woodruff made a motion to accept the treasurer's report seconded by Sharon Washer. Carried by all present.

Old Business

1. The committee discussed the Dorothy and Wayne grave space problem at length. Included is a list of Dorothy and Wayne Thomas's 7 children. Elmer Thomas (a son) is insisting that he be buried in the plot across from his dad—Plot 168-space #2. He had a foundation poured there and it's waiting for the stone. Unfortunately his sister Sheila wants that space as well. We spoke with Michael Catena (Investigator Division of Cemeteries) at the meeting (by phone) and he said all family members have to agree before Elmer Thomas puts anything on that space. The committee agreed to refund Elmer for the foundation until this matter is resolved. Dennis agreed to give the check of \$430 (price of foundation) back to Olney-Foust Funeral Home so they can return it to Elmer Thomas. Dan Lounsberry has been threatened by Sheila Thomas stating that she's going to get a lawyer to fight this. Dan sent her a copy of the Rules and Regulations, the board members, who to contact, price list, and Cemetery 101. Dan also included the Alden Office Division of Cemeteries and a name and number of who to ask for. Letter included. Sheila Thomas has threatened to sue the cemetery. Mike Catena suggested that the cemetery board contact the Town lawyer (Dan Poulan) to get advice. Dan is sending Michael Catena more information on this case so he can investigate it more.

New Business

1. The Lion's Club offered to help the cemetery out. Dennis and Dan suggested new tires for the John Deere Backhoe and the Veteran's sign that the committee suggested earlier this year. The John Deere seat is also in need of repair. Dan suggested that the Amish reupholster it. He contacted Curt, but he hasn't responded.
2. There was discussion about a sign at the entrance and exit of the cemetery asking for volunteers to serve on the cemetery board. Dan volunteered to go to Certified Traffic and order one saying something like-- "The Scio Fairlawn Cemetery is in need of board members-contact Dan Lounsberry-phone# or Dennis White-phone#."
3. The committee decided to meet with Michael Catena in the spring (possibly February) to discuss how to get more people involved on the cemetery board. He's available Tuesdays and Thursdays. Marcia suggested having chili and corn bread when he comes.

4. Lou Ann made a motion to transfer \$8,000 from the Scio Fairlawn Cemetery checking account into a money market account to get better interest, seconded by Donna Dean. Carried by all present.
5. Dan will call Aaron McGraw of Alfred to take down 2 very tall pine trees in the cemetery.
6. Dan suggested to fill up the cemetery equipment with fuel and additives for the winter.
7. Tentatively the cemetery committee is planning a chicken BBQ at the end of March. The dinner will include chicken, salt potatoes, salad, cornbread, and a brownie.
8. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20pm was made by Sharon Washer, seconded by Dan Lounsberry. Carried by all present.
9. The next meeting is tentatively planned for February 17th or 19th.

Sharon Washer (secretary)