

BETHANY CEMETERY NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2011

The past 7-8 months have been a very difficult time for Bethany Board members and all lot owners.

The litigation initiated by the outgoing board after the election in August resulted in several court proceedings, ultimately resulting in a court order for a new election of officers. Due to a delay in receiving the list of lot owners and mailing addresses, the original date for the election was postponed until April 30, 2011.

This election resulted in the following list of officers.

President:	Dave Peterson	Trustees:	Joyce Johnson
Secretary:	Milt Sundquist		Diane Forsell
Treasurer:	John Larson		Tracy Suomala

The new board met on May 7, 9, & 16.

Immediate priorities were established:

- setting up the mechanics of operation (change of banking information. meeting with current CPA Ken Muckala, auditing and setting up accounts and paying outstanding bills)

- obtaining all documentation and records from outgoing officers

- ensuring the cemetery was cleaned up and made ready for Memorial Day Weekend and planning the Memorial Day Services at the Chapel.

- sending a financial report & letter seeking donations to all lot owners including a newsletter from the Board

A letter of appreciation and \$100 was sent to Salem Lutheran Church and Hank Noordzy for heir help in the election.

The state statutes for cemetery boards allow for the appointment of Associate Trustees. These trustees would not be voting members, but would be available to assist and advise the Board on various projects. Dennis Velander and Bob Schramm have been appointed to this position and others will be approached and volunteers requested.

It was unanimously decided that the current By Laws for the Association need to be completely re-done. This process will be organized to begin this summer and volunteers will be sought to assist in this process.

The \$20,000.00 withdrawn from the Trust account by the outgoing board, for their legal fees, has left us in an extremely serious financial situation. Methods to increase income will have to be pursued. Discussion of a web page for the cemetery, advertising brochures with photos and any other ways to promote lot sales needs to be pursued.

The Board has had to meet weekly through the month of May to get organized. Going forward the Board tentatively plans to meet the *2nd Monday of every month in the Education wing of Salem Lutheran Church at 7:00 PM.* Lot owners are encouraged to attend any of the meetings. Until we are able to establish a method of communication such as a web site to let lot owners know of any changes to times and locations of meetings, please contact one of the Board members to verify the time and place of the next meeting.

We are looking for volunteers for Associate Trustee or committee members to work on some of the project mentioned in this newsletter. We are also looking for input on other ways to maintain and improve the cemetery. If you have any input or wish to volunteer please contact one of the Board Members.

If you would like to make a Tax-Deductible donation to Bethany Cemetery, please fill out the form below and mail it to the address of the P.O. Box.

Thank you for your support.

BETHANY CEMETERY OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

AMOUNT: _____

MAIL TO: Bethany Cemetery

P.O. Box

Duluth, MN 5580