



Mission Statement: The purpose of the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery is to optimize the cemetery's potential as a cultural resource through education, preservation, and promotion of Mount Hope Cemetery's unique heritage.

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes – April 5, 2023 – in person

In Attendance	Excused	Unexcused	Guests/Members
Dennis Carr	Cam Tran		Marilyn Colby
Pat Corcoran	Sally Millick		Carina Gassman
Deb Coffey	Rose O’Keefe		Susan Andersen
Kristine Klein	Marjorie Searl		Lynda Baudanza
Henry McCartney	Monica Gurell		
Barbara Figura	Tom Jones		
Tony Filer			
Yarelis Tinoco			
Robbie Dreeson			
Chris Grooms			
Nancy Uffindell			
Chris Petote			

Call to Order: Patricia Corcoran 7:00 pm

Secretary’s Report: Chris Petote

- Chris Grooms had a question on clarification of new heat trace’s being installed into which Chapel. Chris Petote will get correct information from Jarod Terrell and adjust March minutes accordingly. Motion to accept the minutes made by Nancy Uffindell, seconded by Kristine Klein. Approved.

Cemetery Report: Jarod Terrell (was absent from this meeting)

President Report: Patricia Corcoran

- Pat began by thanking all who participated in the Annual Meeting noting the new venue, Brickstone at St. Johns, offered a spacious, comfortable location for all.
- This meeting was video recorded by Hannah Davis of RIT and will be edited and then available for all to view on the FOMH website.
- Pat reported that we received notice from Monroe County Surrogate’s Court that FOMH will be receiving money from the estate of John Pearsall. As he was a dear friend to the

organization, it was decided that a tree would be planted in his memory on Arbor Day this year.

- Pat gave special thanks and praise to Dennis Carr, Deb Coffey, Sarah Johnson, and Sally Millick for the production of an outstanding 2023 tour brochure.
- Pat shared an article written in the April issue of *City Magazine* titled “*Rolling Stoned -25 fun things to do in Rochester when you’re high*”, Mount Hope Cemetery came in at #23 - ‘*Tour the headstones at Mount Hope Cemetery*’ Board members all got quite a few chuckles out of this, and Pat did note that as a Board we have been striving to become multigenerational, and now it appears we are on the right track.
- Pat is very happy upon finally achieving our goal of succession planning, one that seemed to take many years to accomplish. Pat took this time to thank each and every one for their help and hard work in moving forward with the mission of the FOMH during her tenure as VP & President. She praised the loyalty, creativity and hard work and shared how grateful she has been for this. Pat looks forward to continuing her work with the Friends and is very excited at the bright future ahead with all the talents, energy and enthusiasm that our new President will bring to the table.
- Dennis Carr, one of originals in the formation of the FOMH organization, shared high praise and gratitude and wanted to acknowledge that in all his years with FOMH he has never seen as many productive and positive changes as seen during Pat Corcoran’s tenure. Henry McCartney also expressed his gratitude to Pat for her hard work, enthusiasm and leadership. It is believed that this transition will be a smooth and welcome one.

Financial Report: Henry McCartney

- Henry emailed his financial report through March to all, noting in his email: “As is typical, the winter is a quiet time for FOMH finances. In fact, I’ve not attached a Restricted Funds Report, as the only change since February’s report was one \$200 donation for the Holocaust monument. There were no expenditures using restricted funds in March”.
- Henry made the Board aware of his absence for the next two monthly meetings; he will provide detailed reports upon his return.

Election of Officers: Dennis Carr

- Dennis proposed to re-elect Yarelis Tinoko for a one year term so as to incorporate her into the next class of elections in 2024, Chris Petote seconded, and all approved.
- Dennis presented each Board member a paper ballot with the slate of proposed officers up for election. Each member voted and returned ballots to Carina Gassman for counting. Count came is as 12 yea, 0 nay. 2023 officers as follows: President: Kristine Klein, Vice President: Dennis Carr, Treasurer: Henry McCartney and Secretary: Chris Petote
- Dennis then gave all a list sharing some of the FOMH committees, with chairs named, as well as some duties defined. This information will help those seeking to share ideas, share information, offer help with, ask questions, etc. of the various committees.

New President’s Remarks: Kristine Klein

- Kristine shared with all an email she shared with Pat Corcoran on August 2, 2021.
*‘What it means to be a trustee:
To be a part of the Board of Trustees is an honor. The role of the trustee brings with it a responsibility that we should all take seriously. We must be committed to FOMH’s mission and to the organization’s efforts. The trustees should work to keep the organization, and therefore the cemetery, alive, vital and relevant.
We are caretakers and the heart of the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery. Not only are we devoted to the cemetery, but we also cherish its history, art, culture, gardens and natural beauty and want to share its amazing story with the community.’*
- Kristine looks forward to this new endeavor and will share more of her vision and goals as the month’s progress.

Holocaust Committee: Pat Corcoran

- Pat shared with all that the committee chairs, Marcia Birken and Marjorie Searl will need help with the May 7, 2023 Holocaust Memorial dedication ceremony.
- Traffic control, handicap parking, escorts for the elderly will be needed
- Receptionists and other members for greeting and guiding guests for ceremony
- Pat also noted that this will most likely be the FOMH biggest event of the season

Collecting Volunteer Hours: Patricia Corcoran & Kristine Klein

- Pat and Kris have been working on the best way to record volunteer hours. For now, they will concentrate on Board member hours through the use of a form they created. This lists many of the various volunteer duties performed. Each member is to record their hours and maintain their form at monthly meetings.
- Kristine reminded all these numbers are important for grant writing, asking for donations, and more.

New Tour Guide Training: Dennis Carr & Deb Coffey

- Dennis reported that Deb and he have 11 new trainees as well as 4 ready to train upon their return to NY. So far they have held 3 classroom setting sessions and 3 in the field training lessons.

Epitaph Report: Kristine Klein

- Kristine shared the new Epitaph will be out the end of April. The topic for this issue is the Spanish-American War and is full of many articles.
- The summer Epitaph will feature a summer in the city theme. Topics such as the Fandango, the Children’s Pavilion and Henry Durand are planned to be included.
- Kristine also shared that the Epitaph committee is going to alter how they choose topics to cover. Beginning this September, they will meet and plan out the following years’ worth of topics.

To shorten Board meetings, yet still allow enough time for discussion, most committee reports/stats were sent to each member prior to the meeting for review. There will be an opportunity for questions regarding these reports at the end of the meeting. This new procedure is a trial and can be discussed at subsequent meetings for its effectiveness.

Additional Reports:

Please see attached individual committee reports

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm

Next board meeting is Wed., May 3, 2023

Minutes Submitted by Chris Petote, Board Secretary