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 – February 7, 2024 – via Zoom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In Attendance</th>
<th>Excused</th>
<th>Unexcused</th>
<th>Guests/Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marjorie Searl</td>
<td>Sally Millick</td>
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<td>Chris Grooms</td>
<td>Monica Gurell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pat Corcoran</td>
<td>Tony Filer</td>
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<td>Dennis Carr</td>
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<td>Deb Coffey</td>
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<td>Kristine Klein</td>
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<td>Robbie Dreeson</td>
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<td>Barbara Figura</td>
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<td>Henry McCartney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Uffindell</td>
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<td>Chris Petote</td>
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<td>Carina Gassman</td>
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Call to Order: Kristine Klein 7:06 pm

Secretary’s Report: Chris Petote

- One addition to be made to the January 2024 meeting minutes as per Patricia Corcoran: the final number of volunteer hours for 2023 was 8,089.5. Motion to accept January minutes by Pat Corcoran, seconded by Dennis Carr, accepted by all.

President Report: Kristine Klein

- Kristine asked for a volunteer to open the Gatehouse on Saturday, February 17, 2023, from 1-2:30 pm while the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Abraham Lincoln Camp #6, hold their meeting; Dennis Carr volunteered for this.
- Kristine also requested a volunteer to join this year’s nominating committee. Deb Coffey volunteered and will join Pat Corcoran, Monica Gurell, and Sally Millick.


- On January 13, 2023 Henry held his annual budget meeting, noting that a number of interested Board members participated as well, to review and discuss the proposed 2024
FOMH budget. Henry explained how he uses past trends to aid in planning for the current year's financial activity.

- Henry reported that in January, the *Ignite! Jewish Community Impact Grants* money, which was awarded to the Holocaust Committee, was received. This restricted grant will further the work of the Holocaust committee.

- Having sent his financial reports before this meeting and then sharing these via Zoom’s screen-sharing, Henry welcomed questions and discussion. After some discussion, Henry proposed we adopt the 2024 budget as presented, and Nancy Uffindell seconded. All Board members are in favor.

- This new budget includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Tree & Landscape Activities - $5,500 (invasive species control/Beech Tree RXs)
  - Stone Cleaning - $500 (supplies & materials)
  - Beautification - $1,650 (wreaths/grass mowing of key sites)
  - Signs - $750 (identify FOMH projects/caution signs)
  - Maintenance - $3,985 (stone repairs needed in previously restored areas)

- Henry added that a new procedure will begin for the Cemetery Improvement and Restoration Committee. In the future, the committee will first present any large project ideas to the board for discussion and approval.

- Henry proposed $12,385 spending authority for the Improvement and Restoration committee, which Dennis Carr seconded. All in favor.

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**Banner Cards: Patricia Corcoran**

- Pat shared with board members the history of the Banner Cards program and provided the names of those who had been included over the past three cycles of the program. Pat then asked those interested in nominating the next group to please make sure there is a high-resolution photo available and that it is copyright-free, then submit to her the nominee's name, birth/death dates, and burial location. This information is due to Pat by March 15, 2024.

- Dennis Carr will then work with Jarod Terrell to choose the final 16 banner people. Once they are chosen, a committee will work on writing the banner card stories.

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**When Souls Rise: Patricia Corcoran**

- Pat and Dennis met with Anne Wilcox and Ward Silverstein about the possibility of a final performance of the *When the Souls Rise* dance event during the Fringe Festival. Pat reported that Anne was looking into obtaining a $5,000 grant and would ask the FOMH for the remaining $3,000 and volunteers to help run the event as in the past. The money is needed to rent equipment such as lighting and sound systems and pay the dancers.

- Questions and discussion began amongst the Board as to the pros and cons of this possibility. The biggest unilateral objection was regarding the money, as the majority felt the Friends would not benefit from this and could not justify spending that much of our budget on this. There was discussion of the possibility of a donor for all or part of this money -- the Friends would only need to donate volunteer time; however, between the busy tour season and the annual tour event fundraiser coming soon after, it was felt that this might weigh on volunteers. Ultimately, Dennis Carr motioned that the FOMH would decline participation in this event in any capacity, and Nancy Uffindell seconded. The majority favored this motion, with only a few against it.
Committee Reports:

*Full reports were emailed to Board members before the meeting

**Restoration Committee** – Committee met Saturday, February 3, 2023. There was a good turnout of members who discussed project ideas and what areas to cover in 2024 potentially. The committee also set a deadline of May 1, 2024, for the remaining posts to be installed in the SBA area; if this work has not been completed, we will no longer use the current contractor.

**Tour Committee: Deb Coffey and Dennis Carr**
Deb Coffey and Dennis Carr are finalizing the theme tour schedule, which will be done ASAP to get to printers. They’ve been in touch with guide trainees and have set three classroom dates.

Motion made to adjourn by Chris Grooms, seconded by Barbara Figura

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

**Additional Reports:**

The next board meeting is Wed., March 6, 2024

Winter Tour: Saturday, February 24 at 11:00 am, South End

Minutes Submitted by Chris Petote, Board Secretary