

**Minutes of September 12, 2006**  
**Veterans' Memorial Cemetery Association Meeting**

**Call to Order:** The Chairman called the Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Opening Ceremonies by:** Chairman, Arthur J. Roy PSC (Prayer & Pledge Allegiance to Our Flag.)

**Roll Call of Members was taken as follows:** **Present** – David Richmond, Glenda Knowlan, Arthur Roy, Mike Clark, Joe Gilbert, Robert Boggs, Kelley Wynne, William Henshaw, and Don Simoneau.

**Excused** – Peter Ogden, Robert Weymouth and General Libby.

**Unexcused Absence** – Jim Rogers, Kenny Ware

**Minutes June 2006:** *Motion made, seconded and passed to accept minutes of June 13, 2006 meeting.*

**Treasurer's Report: Mike Clark**

Mike handed out and reviewed the Quarterly report.

Mike informed members that donations are way down this year compared to last. About half as many donations have been received. We are spending more than we are taking in.

Arthur Roy, Chairman stated that if we keep spending more than we are taking in we are going to be out of business.

*Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report*

**Comments - General Libby: (Excused)**

**Superintendent's Report: Dave Richmond**

Dave read the monthly burial reports and gave a brief update on both cemeteries.

**Cemetery updates:**

1. The mowing contract that was put in place this season is working out well. They are trimming all of the stones every third mowing at the present time. This leaves the cemetery crew more time to do other projects that may ordinarily be neglected.
2. Dave stated that Sugar Maple trees have been purchased and placed along both sides of the Flag Avenue in Mount Vernon. Most of the trees that were planted in 2001 have since died.
3. The Work Group budget request has been submitted to the Governor's Office.
4. Bad press regarding overgrown headstones in sections O & P. Unfortunately; we are unable to handle all of the stone maintenance at this time.

Members feel it would help to get the upright markers in the cemetery, but there needs to be a Law change in order for this to happen.

**Discussion follows:**

The general consensus is that it would be a mistake to make Laws regarding the type of headstones allowed (flat or upright). They feel that Dave should have the final say. Waiting for Legislative approval is a lengthy process.

Dave informed members that the request that is presently in for Legislative review allows both types of headstones with no specifics (marble or granite). The cemetery would be able to utilize all of the types of headstones available through the VA.

Judd Tompkins attended the meeting to discuss the check off on the tax form for the veteran's cemetery. He feels that we should make a push to let people know it's there so funds can be raised.

Members agreed and will start putting that information in their news letters and use other visible means to get this information out to the public.

Dave discussed the possible ways those funds would be used. One possible use would be for the granite wall engraving each year. Other ideas were also discussed that would include the three cemeteries.

**Bureau Director- Peter Ogden: Attending a Director's Convention in Utah.****Chairman's Report: Arthur Roy**

Arthur asked all members to assist with the fund raising effort. He wants members to get out there and sell bricks and advertise the walkways.

**Fund Raising: James Rogers (Absent – Arthur gave report)****Vice Chairman's Report: Joe Gilbert**

The flag project has been successful and the sale of flags will continue. Fifty two flags will be needed annually. Joe will continue with this project.

Arthur Roy thanked Joe for doing such a good job selling the flags. He also thanked Mike for the excellent job he is doing with the Treasurer's Report.

**New Business**

Dave discussed the fund raising procedures used at the Caribou Cemetery thinking that this may be an idea that would benefit the Augusta group. The Caribou group is project driven. They have Sub-committees that go out and raise money for individual projects by having benefit suppers and soliciting funds from businesses and organizations. Dave felt that maybe the Augusta group might try doing it this way instead of raising money and banking it.

**Unfinished Business:**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held at the American Legion, Post 2 at 9 a.m. on December 12, 2006.