

Portland Mills Cemetery Newsletter – 2022

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of Portland Mills Cemetery was held on June 5, 2022. There were 15 present.

Carolyn Smith Collins, President, called the meeting to order.

Janet Spencer Barr, Secretary, read the minutes from the last meeting, June 6, 2022. Sandy Hopkins, Treasurer, read the Treasurers report.

Expenses:	\$ 4,188.94
Income:	\$ 5,339.80
Bank Account Balance:	\$ 5,428.00
Endowment Fund CD's:	\$ 66,000.00

There was a discussion about interest rates going down on the CD. Todd will check out more information, but if there isn't a better rate any place else, the one CD that is due will be extended at the lower rate.

Harold gave a report on the lawn. The mower is fine. They will get the posts set up around the flagpole in time. There are 2 trees that have died. Those will be removed. They may not need to be replaced because the trees around them have filled in the space where they stand. Stephanie and her boys trimmed the lower limbs on the remaining pear trees. The REMC removed 5 pear trees, chipped them up and cleaned the ground at no charge to the cemetery. That is very much appreciated.

Donations to the cemetery would be appreciated. We operate the cemetery expenses from donations, sales of lots and interest on the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is for emergency use only. **Please make your check payable to Portland Mills Cemetery.** Send your donation to **Todd and Sandy Hopkins, 3214 N 1200 E, Russellville, IN 46175.**

You can access the cemetery website at portlandmills.com. There is a Veterans page listing all the Veterans buried at Portland Mills Cemetery and Old Seceder. If you have a family member who has served in the Military and is buried at Portland Mills Cemetery or Old Seceder, please share pictures and information on that Veteran if you have not done that already. That information can be shared on the website. Thank you to David Marrero for maintaining the website. He continues to add a lot of information to the site. You can also send information to me, and I will get it to David. My mailing and email information is at the end of the newsletter.

We had one burial this past year.

Cy Harbison – 2-22-2022

We remember Cy as a man who gave so much of his time to the Cemetery. He had so much knowledge of the Portland Mills Cemetery and the surrounding area. He was a delight to talk to. He will be missed.

It was discussed that we need younger people to take an interest in serving on the board of the cemetery. We hope there are those that will be interested. If so, contact Caroline or me.

An election was held, and Carolyn Smith Collins was elected President and Dan Harbison was elected Vice President. They were elected to a 2-year term each.

As your Secretary, I would like to add a bit of information that, I would hope, encourage someone to come forward and volunteer their time to be the Secretary of the Cemetery. There does come a time when age has its limits. Since I have been Secretary, I have taken information from the handwritten ledgers of the Portland Mills Cemetery, from June 1898 to present, and typed them into the computer. I then printed out the information and put that into folders. I have donated a computer hard drive to the cemetery. So, now all that

needs to be done is add the information from each year's meeting and print out the present meeting's minutes and add to that folder. The information for the Burials (with some information from Old Seceder) and Sales and Transfers of lots can be added to the Excel Spread Sheet on the hard drive each year. It has been interesting to get all of the information put into the computer, but I also enjoyed the process. I will be the 6th generation of Spencer's and 3rd generation of Stewart's buried at Portland Mills Cemetery and I have strong feelings in regard to the Portland Mills Cemetery History being preserved for future generations. I do hope there is someone who would be willing to have an interest in being Secretary. I have put my email address, phone number and mailing address here. Please feel free to contact me if you are interested or have any questions. You do not have to live near Portland Mills to be an officer. I live 75 miles from the cemetery. There is just one meeting a year and updating the records each year. Throughout the year the officers stay in touch through email should there be a change of address etc. so that information can stay current.

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The next meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. on June 4, 2022, at Portland Mills Christian Church.

Meeting was adjourned

Carolyn Smith Collins, President – 765-592-5205
Dan Harbison, Vice President
Janet Spencer Barr, Secretary – 317-997-1777
Harold Thomas, Grounds Keeper