ANNUAL & BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LAKEMONT CEMETERY, LAKEMONT, NY
MINUTES
AUGUST 11, 2026
ANNUAL MEETING / BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The annual meeting was called to order at 5:39 p.m.

Members present:

George Lawson	Ron Anderson
Melissa Lawson	Diane Campbell
Mimi Gridley	Helen Lawson
Peter Honsberger	Alice Pagano
Harry Humphreys	

Michael Catena, Investigator with NYS Division of Cemeteries was invited to speak to the group prior to the meeting and to stay for the meeting.

The Meeting was held at the cemetery, with a visual inspection of the grounds.

Minutes from the 08/12/25 annual meeting were discussed and approved.
Moved: Helen Lawson Second: Mimi Gridley Carried: 9-0

Election of (2) Directors, Incumbents.
Incumbents: Mimi Gridley, Helen Lawson
Moved: Melissa Lawson Second: Diane Campbell Carried: 9-0

Review of 2025 Financial Operations was provided by Melissa Lawson, summarized below:

$	4,065	Gifts/Donations
$	500	Lot Sales
$	1,050	Burial Income (3 burials)
$	4,449	Interest/Dividends
$	3,839	Cash Disbursed (not all 2025 expenses included; lag in billing)
$	111,277	Cash (includes investment account)

Several key goals were met in 2025

We received IRS Tax Exemption status. Excellent news for our donors.

Over time, the driveway 'drifted' out of place. Gravel was added to improve the condition of the driveway and correct any 'drift'.

Significant progress was made to the gravestone restoration project. Meetings were held with Michael Catena from NYS Division of Cemeteries. Qualifying grave stones have been identified and tagged. The initial notification has been published. Thank you Melissa for all your efforts.

It should be noted that not all leaning grave stones qualify for NYS aid, especially in the older section. While some stones may be tipping at a significant angle, a large portion of the stone may actually be embedded underground and is not at risk of falling. In fact, attempting to straighten these older stones may actually cause damage.

Discussion of 2026 Prioritized Activities.

The Association will continue to complete the steps necessary to obtain financial assistance from New York State to repair these tipping or 'walking' headstones, including obtaining bids and filing necessary paperwork with NYS.

The trees in the cemetery need to be evaluated. Last year a tree fell onto the neighboring vineyard causing damage. Healthy trees need to be 'limbed up' to create better air flow. This project was discussed in the Director's Meeting.

Upcoming 2027 Elections of Directors. George Lawson, Ron Anderson

Upcoming 2028 Election of Directors, Melissa Lawson, Diane Campbell, Peter Honsberger

The annual meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 5:51 p.m.

Election of officers:
President, Vice President, Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Secretary, Deputy Secretary
The Board moved to carry forward the current slate of officers.

President - George Lawson Vice President - Ron Anderson
Treasurer - Melissa Lawson Deputy Treasurer – Helen Lawson
Secretary - Diane Campbell Deputy Secretary - Melissa Lawson
Moved: Melissa Lawson Second: Mimi Gridley Carried: 7-0

Designate check signatories.
Board moved to carry forward current signatories:
Ron Anderson, Helen Lawson, Melissa Lawson
Moved: Melissa Lawson Second: Diane Campbell Carried: 7-0

Designate Safe Deposit Box Custodian.
Board moved to carry forward current custodians
Ron Anderson, Peter Honsberger, Mimi Gridley
Moved: Melissa Lawson Second: Helen Lawson Carried: 7-0

Designate Certificate of Deposit Managers.
Board moved to carry forward current custodians
Mimi Gridley, Ron Anderson, Peter Honsberger
Moved: Melissa Lawson Second: Helen Lawson Carried: 7-0

Designate Investment Account Manager.
Board moved to carry forward with current manager and to add Ron Anderson
George Lawson, Ron Anderson
Moved: George Lawson Second: Melissa Lawson Carried: 7-0

Annual Conflict of Interest
Forms were distributed and executed by all officers.

Review fee schedule:
Proposed fee schedule: Grave $500/Full Body $800/Cremains $350. Initial domestic pet cremains $0.00; $250 fee for each additional domestic pet cremains. Green burial grave subsidence $75
It was decided to maintain existing fees for grave ($500), full body ($800) and cremains ($350). Clarified/changed domestic pet cremains to be: any number of pet cremains interred at the same time and in the same plot as the owner $0 additional fees, provided there is no additional labor. A fee of $250 will be charged to inter pet cremains at a later date. A fee of $900 will be charged for green burials.

Moved: Ron Anderson Second: Peter Honsberger Carried: 7-0

Discussion of cemetery fund investment
Discuss retaining current agent
One investment account is currently with Principal Financial. Ron and George met with Ben Harding with Principal Financial and were assured that funds invested are available within 48 hours. It was decided to invest both Permanent Maintenance Funds and a portion of Operating Funds. Since Permanent Maintenance Funds can be invested with a higher yield and longer term they will be held separate from Operating Funds. It was agreed to retain Principal Financial for one year. We will evaluate and revisit this topic next year.

Moved: Mimi Gridley Second: Helen Lawson Carried: 7-0

Select retail or advisory relationship for funds invested
While an advisory relationship charges a higher fee, investments within the portfolio are continuously monitored and adjusted based on changing market conditions. We agreed on an Advisory Relationship. We will evaluate and revisit this topic next year.

Moved: Ron Anderson Second: Peter Honsberger Carried: 7-0

Authorize separation of investment account into working capital and permanent maintenance
Approved

Moved: George Lawson Second: Helen Lawson Carried: 7-0

Authorize the transfer of all but $100 of Permanent Maintenance (PM) savings to the Investment PM account.
Approved
Moved: Melissa Lawson Second: Ron Anderson Carried: 7-0

Review practice of keeping minimum operating fund balance between $8,000-10,000
These are funds in the checking account. Further guidance/research is needed before taking action.

Discussion of current cemetery care/maintenance priorities
Tree census.
Authorization to solicit and obtain quotes from an arborist, perhaps at Cornell or ESF to conduct a census of the trees. George Lawson agreed to tackle this project.

Moved: Helen Lawson Second: Ron Anderson Carried: 7-0

Discussion was held on repairs of leaning gravestones, not eligible for NYS grant. Based on the understanding that the Association would be responsible for any damage done during the process and based on Mr. Catena's recommendation that the very old stones simply cannot be fixed, it was decided to hold this plan.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:23pm

Respectfully Submitted
Diane M. Campbell