**4/28/17 CEMETERY MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting opened with a prayer

Claude gave an equipment status report – Thanks to Claude for repairing and preparing all our mowers for the mowing season. He will maintain all the oil levels on our mowers.

Claude made a recommendation that we keep the 2004 rider instead of selling it. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

There were no concerns from the mowing team leaders.

Spring cleanup went well with a lot of help.

Restroom signs will be placed 1 at each of the crossroads east and west of the chapel with the old one going on the restroom fence.

It was agreed to move the Mary Statue from the north east entrance and to remove the brush from around it. The placement of the statue is open for discussion.

**IMPROVEMENT IDEAS**

A motion was made, seconded and approved to remove all shrubs from around the chapel and crucifix but not until after Memorial Day.

It was agreed to have the chapel power washed and repainted. Ralph will get a bid on this.

The south fence line has been cleaned out thanks to Steve, it looks much better.

More discussion to come on landscaping around the cemetery sign, chapel, crucifix and shrines.

There is a subcommittee discussing how to improve the baby land area.

Jerome is getting bids on extending the 24” drain tube in the east section so that we can eliminate the diagonal ditch that runs through that section. We would use excess dirt to fill the ditch in.

We will start making a plan to extend the drive through that section when the work is done on the drain.

We had a discussion on opening more area for burials in the new section with no action taken.

We have a large tree along the south drive which will have to be taken down. We need to see if more need to come down before contacting Ayles Tree Service for a quote.

We are getting two bids on spraying the cemetery for weeds.

The meeting ended with a prayer.

**CEMETERY ITEMS COMPLETED IN 2016**

* Hired new grave digger
* Load of top soil donated by TH Dairy
* 19 graves repaired and reseeded as well as any tractor tire marks
* Purchased lawn roller, zero turn mower, air compressor, safety glasses, hearing protection, pruning saw, hand cart for vaults and 2 Stihl Trimmers to replace the old Toro trimmers
* Relocated the Porta Potty, installed a vinyl fence around 3 sides and cleaned up the old site
* Removed wood chips from 6 stumps that were ground down in 2015 and repaired and reseeded the areas
* Filled in and seeded holes by the Southwest entrance and the North entrance
* Removed the pine trees, bushes and stones around the cemetery sign. Stones were hauled to the southeast corner of the cemetery. Fill dirt was added and reseeded. The sign was also cleaned
* Trimmed 16 trees in the old section, 3 in the new section that were a nuisance when mowing
* Removed stones from around one tree for mowing purposes and one stump so it could be removed. These stones were put around the drain tiles in the new section
* The South fence line was sprayed for poison ivy
* 10 stumps were ground out, 6 in the new section 4 in the old, 9 of which have been repaired and reseeded
* Ayles Tree Service cut down 3 trees and trimmed 13 others of dead branches and branches hanging over the south drive and the large tree just south of the sign
* Reviewed and updated the Cemetery Handbook and Policies
* Completed audit of all the graves in the cemetery to make sure that they match the records that we have on file in the office
* The weather strips on the bottom of the west Chapel doors were replaced
* Shrubs around the Crucifix in front of the Chapel were trimmed

There are a couple of ways to get involved in the cemetery if you would like to help out. First, we are always in need of volunteers to help on the mowing crews through the summer. Volunteers can work as often or as little as is convenient for them. We also have a lot of smaller projects that come up such as when we work on the landscaping. Please contact Ralph Pung or the parish office if you are interested.