

**Village of Lily Lake
Plan Commission Minutes
Monday August 4, 2019**

1. Roll Call:

The Plan Commission was called to order at 7:08 PM by Chairperson, Steve Zahn. Dan Turner and Cheryl Pollak were present. Lisa Garbacz and Glenn Bork were absent.

Guests

Mae Strobel, Lloyd Stover, John Knewitz and, Rick Overstreet

2. Approve Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda for the August 4th Plan Commission meeting by Dan Turner and second by Cheryl Pollak – all in favor (Chairperson voting). Motion passes.

3. Approve the Meeting Minutes from the July 1, 2019 Plan Commission Meeting

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from the July 1st Plan Commission meeting by Dan Turner and second by Cheryl Pollak – all in favor (Chairperson voting). Motion passes.

4. Public Comment:

None

5. New Business

a. Lily Lake Cemetery

John Knewitz and Lloyd Stover presented the history and present issues associated with the Lily Lake Cemetery.

The cemetery is 2.3 acres and was formally founded in 1902. There are approximately 600 grave sites with some dating to 1830. Many local and long-time residents have family members buried at the cemetery. John's Knewitz's daughter passed in 1999 and is also buried at the cemetery. Dan Turner asked if the cemetery had been relocated at one point in history. Dan stated that local history claims the cemetery was originally located directly west of the present location and perhaps somewhat within or at the east edge (along a fence line) of the present Harman property. The cemetery was moved to its present location in the late 1800s. Steve Zahn commented that there is some historic evidence of a cemetery located within Campton Township and at the west edge of Section 8. John stated that there is no written evidence that the cemetery was moved and was always located at its present location.

John stated that the first meeting of the Independent Cemetery Board was conducted in 1902 and meeting minutes remain today, on parchment paper. Since that time, documents and deeds to grave sites sold remain in tact though some were lost to a fire in the early history of the Board. The most noted of Lily Lake Cemetery history was the celebration and dedication of the Abner Powers monument in 1902. The dedication was said to have attracted about 30,000 people and adjacent communities agreed to suspend 4th of July events that year to concentrate efforts on the Powers celebration. John also noted that Kane County has the greatest number of post Revolutionary War veterans in local cemeteries among Illinois. Regional history and Lily Lake history identify the earliest residents were primarily from the eastern states and particularly New York and northward to the boundary providences of Canada.

Presently, the Lily lake Cemetery is struggling to meet the financial demands of maintenance. Grave site sales are the primary maintenance income and reduced sales have impacted the maintenance budget. The Cemetery may have enough to maintain the grounds until the close of 2019. Therefore, the Cemetery Board members are seeking new ownership of the cemetery.

Chairperson Steve Zahn stated that the Cemetery Board members are formally meeting with the Village to discuss the request. While beyond the scope of the Plan Commission meeting, Steve Zahn asked if the maintenance of the cemetery grounds could possibly be supported by Lily Lake while cemetery ownerships remains as it is today. John Knewitz stated that it would be an alternate consideration. Cheryl Pollak asked if investigations into grant funding have been conducted. John Knewitz commented that while significant locally, the cemetery does not attract interest among grant sources or alternate entities within Campton Township. Rick Overstreet noted that the community of Cortland acquired ownership of a local cemetery and he would investigate the process of acquisition employed.

Steve Zahn stated that discussions with Lloyd Stover, John Knewitz and the Village of Lily Lake may yet to be scheduled. Mr. Zahn will update the Commission on the progress of future discussions.

6. Old Business

a. Comprehensive Land Use Plan Review/Revision – 2020

Presentation of the Lily Lake Cemetery history was among this evening's planning consideration. The Land Use Plan review will continue at the September meeting.

7. Adjourn

Chairperson Steve Zahn called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion to adjourn by Cheryl Pollak and second by Dan Turner – all in favor (Chairperson voting). Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.