

Sowers Cemetery Stewardship Policy

The Sowers Cemetery Association Board of Directors has the responsibility and authority to ensure the history and integrity of the Cemetery grounds and grave markers for all friends and family of the interred and the community.

All points not covered below are to be dealt with in good faith and considered for future policy revisions.

General Policy

- All contract for hire or volunteer work is to be coordinated and approved with the cemetery grounds committee or a cemetery representative. No tree/shrub/bush removal or permanent plantings are allowed without coordination and permission from the Cemetery Association.
- Public access to the cemetery is not restricted to pedestrians.
- The cemetery drive entrance may be locked for security reasons if necessary.

Internment and Services

- No interments or disinterment shall take place in the cemetery without notification to a Sowers Cemetery Association officer or representative.

- Each burial or disinterment requires an interment fee of \$100 for cremains or \$200 for traditional burials. There is no fee for a disinterment if the vacated space is legally deeded back to Sowers Cemetery.
- The funeral home will coordinate with the Cemetery Association on grave service fees and identifying and confirming the exact space location. Sowers Cemetery receives no fees from the grave service. Please provide copies of cemetery documents or other form of written attestation of ownership, so that the Cemetery Association and the funeral home can coordinate on the exact grave location.
- A local grave service can be used to supply covered awnings and seating for services at their rates.
- If available, a Cemetery Association officer, board member or representative can open and close a cremains space for a fee of \$100. It is allowed for the opening and closing of a cremains grave by family provided someone from the cemetery board is present during or after for inspection of size and location. The \$100 interment fee would still apply.
- No more than two cremains may be buried atop an unoccupied or occupied full size burial space.
- If the space is occupied with a traditional burial, anyone proposing the use of the space for cremains must present reasonable proof of permission to do so in writing to Sowers Cemetery Association

Grave Markers

- A ground level permanent grave marker must be placed after any burial within 12 months. In lieu of a marker, the cemetery may place a semi-permanent marker if one is not placed.
- The Association or their contractors have the right to move, remove, repair, assemble, disassemble any and all head stones and manmade objects; as well as the maintenance of trees, bushes/shrubs, plantings, etc. to the aesthetics, benefit, improvement and integrity of the cemetery grounds and appearance.
- The cemetery association shall be notified any time someone comes onto the property to place or repair a grave marker. A cemetery representative should be present at the placement.
- A headstone of no greater height of 4 feet tall shall be allowed for burials. Flat and flush mount markers are also allowed.

Grave Adornments

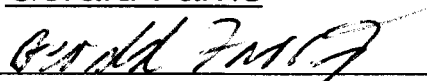
- The Association will leave temporary artificial flowers, trinkets, decorations and other items as long as reasonable. Glass decorations are prohibited. The cemetery has the right to remove any makeshift, dilapidated, broken, temporary structure or ornament during routine maintenance.

- The cemetery association is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items left at the cemetery.

Voted on and passed by the Board of Directors of Sowers Cemetery Association

Date: May 25, 2021

President: Gerald Farris

Signed: 

Secretary: Susan Candelaria

Signed: 