

## **Cemetery Committee Annual Report (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)**

**Cemetery Committee Members:** Judy Brown, Joyce Flescher, Alan Goodman, Faith Helene, Peter Mehlman, Don Miller, Joanne Pasternack, Jeff Rudolph.

Karen Piacenta: Cemetery Administrator

Meyer Frankel: Cemetery Chairperson

**1- Emanuel Funerals: 19 funerals were held** so far for the fiscal year of 2023-2024, where 3 funerals had 200 to 250 attendees at the Emanuel Synagogue Cemetery.

**Lead:** Karen Piacenta / Peter Mehlman

### **2- The Emanuel Cemetery Financials for 2023-2024.**

**Lead:** Michael Kamins / Amy Dembo

**Note:** Cemetery investments are now managed by Stifel Investments

**3- Annual Service at the Emanuel Cemetery:** was held Sunday, September 24, 2023 (the Sunday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur).

**Lead:** Karen Piacenta / Peter Mehlman

**Date / Time:** September 29, 2024 at 1 PM

**Note:** To eliminate the need and cost of speakers, we will be using Zoom facility from Rabbi's I-pad to attendees' I-Phones.

**Note:** Rabbi Small may write special booklets for the cemetery service.

**4- Verifying Cemetery records:** To ensure the accuracy of our cemetery records (Cemetery's data base: Excel Spreadsheets) we need to again, walk the cemetery and compare the deceased's' names, dates, and the cemetery location (Section, Plot and Grave numbers) in our database to the cemetery's monuments' names, dates, and actual cemetery location. Another walk through of the cemetery is planned.

**Lead:** Meyer Frankel / Jeff Rudolph

**Target date:** Starting in June 2024.

**Note:** Proper paper documentation will be provided to record each deceases' name, date of birth and death, location in the cemetery (Section, Plot, and Grave Number).

**Note:** Volunteers are needed to complete this important cemetery task.

### **5- Cemetery Problem Resolution Forms:**

To keep track and document all cemetery calls, complaints, questions, issues.

**Status:** Ongoing project where each month a summary report of all cemetery issues is published.

**Lead:** Karen Piacenta, Cemetery Administrator

**Note:** We have been averaging 9 to 15 issues per month concerning the cemetery. All cemetery issues are documented and the proper people are notified.

**Note:** Of all the cemetery projects, this is well received and praised.

## **6- Cemetery Task Force:**

**Lead:** VP Tamar Margolis

**Members:** Lou Blumenfeld, Amy Dembo, Meyer Frankel, Lori Gottlieb, Michael Kamins, Michalee Merrit, Don Miller, Reesa Olins, Karen Piacenta, Hilda Slivka, Rob Teitelman, Rabbi Small.

**Note:** After addressing a few more cemetery issues (i.e. cemetery Rules and Regulations), the Cemetery Task Force will have completed its work.

## **7- Adding a new member to the Cemetery Committee:**

Due to the passing of Jay Smith, the Cemetery Committee will ask the Synagogue President to nominate a new member to the Cemetery Committee (with approval of the Cemetery Committee).

## **8- Cemetery's annual \$3,000 payment to the Emanuel Synagogue:**

This year, 2023-2024, the cemetery will again be paying the Emanuel Synagogue \$3,000 for work done for the cemetery by the Synagogue's office and maintenance staff.

**Note:** Each year some members of the Cemetery Committee (and other non-cemetery committee members) will review the work done and determine if the cost was appropriate.

## **9- Cemetery maintenance performed for the fiscal year:**

- . Storm related tree damage in Section 6, had to have tree cut and removed
- . Section 6 sign post needed to be replaced
- . Entrance gate to cemetery is bent and is being repaired
- . Replaced window on second floor in chapel
- . Replaced worn United States flag in front of chapel
- . Oil burner after hours call, filter was clogged triggered alarm for temperature drop

## **10- ES Cemetery employs US Cemetery Services, LLC:**

- Performs interments (grave digging for funerals) and installs grave marker foundations.
- Keeper of Emanuel cemetery grounds (lawn mowing and snow plowing).
- Performs grooming of grass (reseeding) near monuments as needed.
- Replace fallen tombstones and patch cemetery roads (potholes).
- The Emanuel Cemetery has a one-year contract with US Cemetery, LLC: ends June 30, 2024.**

Submitted by Meyer Frankel, Cemetery Chairperson