

LAPORTE COUNTY PIONEER CEMETERY COMMISSION  
COURTHOUSE SQUARE  
LAPORTE, IN 4350

---Board Members---  
Dale Ellis, President Wilma Marsh, Vice President  
Kenneth Baker, Financial Secretary Patricia Harris, Recording Secretary  
George L. Earle

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**2008 Cemetery Commission Plans**

Monthly Meetings – Structured monthly meetings for Board Members.

Availability to the Public – Available to public 10:00 am – 3:00 pm first Friday of each month and otherwise by e-mail, phone or mail.

Cemetery Visitations – Continue to visit various cemeteries as a group to acquaint all members with the La Porte County cemeteries and to set priorities.

Historians/Liaisons Volunteers – Continue to have volunteers watch over our cemeteries and report any act of vandalism or cemetery need. Encourage the continuation of transcribing all gravestones, photography, writing histories and identifying veterans graves with the aid of volunteers.

Discovery and Research – Seek out the locations of old cemeteries not known to us previously and then view, research and document, especially Allen Toney Family Burial Ground and Bowell Cemetery.

Continued Preservation of Our Cemeteries – Caretaking is extremely important in our cemeteries as it can affect the safety of individuals visiting the cemeteries.

1. Communication with sexton/caretakers to allow them to make the needs of their individual cemeteries known to the board and discuss ways to prevent vandalism. Enter into written agreements with them detailing the work to be performed in the cemeteries stating a specific amount to be budgeted for the work from Commission funds.
2. Contract with lawn care services for cemetery maintenance for those cemeteries who do not have caretakers. Seek aid of County Highway Dept. for needed removal of trees, etc.
3. Many of our tombstones are in need of repair. We have contracted for completion of repair and restoration of stones at Nickel Plate Cemetery, and to begin work at Norton Cemetery and repair broken stone at Miller-Griffin.
4. Paint fences Nickel Plate, Norton and Foster Cemeteries.
5. Repair needed fencing in cemeteries, and securing bids for same.
6. Seek bids for new signs at Coulter, Pike and Miriam Benedict and install new sign at Sharp, Norton Foster and Posey Chapel cemeteries.
7. The La Porte County Work Release Program has agreed to work with us to supply labor for maintenance at a minimum of two cemeteries and the La Porte County Community Service Program has agreed to supply labor for fence painting.
8. We are beginning a program of historical research to install signs at the cemeteries telling about their history.

Written Reports- Continue using the Cemetery Inspection Form a written report for board members to report on the condition of our cemeteries throughout the year.