

To the Danville Select Board..Bach/Choate/Herrin/Low/Ouellette

You, members of the Danville Select Board, hold powerful positions with both privileges and responsibilities. One of your duties is the stewardship of all Danville cemeteries, but, sadly you have failed miserably when it comes to the North Danville cemeteries. Your ongoing disregard and disrespect for North Danville's history, cemeteries and residents, both living and deceased, is clearly evident with on site cemetery visits over a period of time or attempts to present and discuss concerns with you.

You have, it seems, successfully located a group of local residents willing to accept the unencumbered Pope Cemetery fence. This transference will permit you to avoid all former unmet responsibilities and concurrently eradicate tangible evidence of your biased and negligent care.

We must not overlook fiscal responsibilities and realities. You receive annual cemetery funds from two sources and subsequently select where these funds will be allocated. The North Danville cemeteries have frequently failed to receive funds for critical needs with dire consequences resulting. The historic Pope fence, purchased and erected by former North Danville residents on North Danville land, has been prominently located at the front and sides of the cemetery for well over a century, but you have chosen, time and again, to ignore its historic and familial value for North Danville residents and left it in critical decline. (The public is fully aware of your failed attempt to **secretly** rip out the historic Pope fence to sell for scrap, due to its deteriorated state, caused by YOUR NEGLIGENCE!!!!!! Is this ~~is~~ what happened to the unexplained disappearance of the Massey Cemetery gate several years ago? Who got/gets to pocket the cash for North Danville's historic wrought iron? Will this blood money show up in the books? It is

unlikely that any casual observer would not find some of these shenanigans abhorrent.)

With careful forethought and deliberation, I strongly recommend that the “gifted” fence be accompanied by a \$5000 check, for the sole use of those working to remedy part of the destruction caused by your negligence, bias, etc. This stipend will serve as a small “good will” gesture following years of inappropriate negative actions to fellow tax payers deserving equitable treatment.

You might find the following anecdote of interest. Several years ago a small group of North Danville friends were dining out and the conversation drifted to the cemeteries. As a group, we were seriously attempting to find any logical reason our cemeteries were receiving less care than others elsewhere in the town. One person suggested that it might be due to area within the fencing. Another suggested that it might be based on the number of burials. Not reaching any reasonable reason for the difference, other than prejudicial bias, our quipster said, “Considering every variable we discussed and discarded, it is clear the different expenditures must be based on the cemeteries' distance from Danville green.”

This sincere letter's success will be evaluated firstly, on your stipend check, secondly, if it provokes any board member to spend time in self reflection, and finally if you, as a board, discuss and analyze your group dynamics and what your actions reveal.

It is known that many of you board members, over the years, have not agreed with the prejudice and bias your group continually demonstrates. It must be remembered that your silence makes you complicit, allowing the louder and more negative members to create your public image.....and make decisions that are frequently lacking in merit and deficient in a moral sense.

Sincerely,

Gerry Lamothe