

Village of New Glarus to Assume Ownership of Swiss Church Cemetery

Starting in February 2025, the Village of New Glarus will officially take over ownership and management of the Swiss Church Cemetery, which will be renamed New Glarus Cemetery. This transition aims to ensure the cemetery's long-term care, preserve its historical significance, and maintain its role as a community resource for future generations.

A transition committee composed of Village Board members, Swiss Church representatives, and community members worked diligently over the past six months to explore the best path forward for the cemetery's future. After extensive discussions and careful consideration, the committee recommended that the Village take ownership of the cemetery.

As part of committee's recommended transition plan, the Village will establish a Cemetery Commission to oversee cemetery operations and hire a part-time Cemetery Manager to handle day-to-day responsibilities, including lot sales, record-keeping, and coordinating with funeral directors and contractors. In addition to taking ownership, the Village is establishing an endowment at the Community Foundation of Southwest Wisconsin to ensure the cemetery's long-term financial stability.

"We are committed to preserving this cherished community asset," said Village President Roger Truttmann. "This transition plan will provide the resources and structure necessary to maintain and operate the cemetery, while easing the administrative burden on Village staff," added Village Administrator Lauren Freeman.

The Swiss Church has worked closely with the Village on this transition plan will continue to be involved by providing staff training and support throughout the transition process. "We're grateful for the Village's partnership in this important project," said Kim Bright, Swiss Church Consistory President. "The cemetery holds deep historical significance to our community, and we're confident that this transition will ensure it remains maintained for generations to come."

The public can find more information about the New Glarus Cemetery by visiting the Village's website at newglarusvillage.com or by calling Village Hall.

For those interested in contributing to the continued care and preservation of the cemetery, donations can be made to New Glarus Cemetery c/o CFSW, P.O. Box 733, Monroe, WI 53566.

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