

SPRINGFIELD, NH CEMETERY COMMISSION
MINUTES for JUNE 6, 2017

PRESENT: 5:00 @ Pleasant View Cemetery; Joe Kealy, Eagle Scout candidate; Tamara Butcher, Select board representative; Pete Abair and Cody Patten, SHD; Richard Petrin & Dale Milne, Cemetery Commissioners
5:30 at Town Office Building: Tamara Butcher, Select board representative; Pete Abair and Cody Patten, SHD; Richard Petrin, Annette Granger & Dale Milne, Cemetery Commissioners

MEETING NOTES

Pleasant View Cemetery: 5:00

- Joe's project is underway. He staked out the area he'd like to put his picnic table. With a minor shift back toward the wall, his plan so far was approved.
- The iron bar behind flag pole which interfered with the Memorial Day ceremony was worked out of the ground and moved out of the way.
- Erosion was addressed next. In spite of the unusually rainy May, the gravel roads did not wash out and the SHD repairs to the soil around recent burial sites held. Because the prisoners never made it to work day, small twigs and branches need to be removed and weed whacking is behind schedule. Cody got some mowing done.
 - A comment was made that lots 85A & 45A are small & suitable for cremation only.

Town Office Building: 5:30-6:30

- May meeting minutes were approved.
- Tamara reported that Memorial Day was received well. Frank had been chosen to be the speaker, but Kenny honored him in his speech.
- June 19th NH DOJ Trustees' meeting will be held in Concord. Dale will attend.
- Messer Hill issues include trees to be removed and a new sign. Dale met with Peter Maurer, who designed an attractive two-sided sign and post for \$555., installed. This project was unanimously voted to proceed. Tamara pulled out some old records and found that Messer Hill was begun in 1820. The last burial was 1920. The Bookers have permission to be buried there.
- Record-keeping & lot sales (#1 in "Powers & Duties" by-laws & regulations for New Hampshire cemeteries)
 - Records on website – Tamara has not yet entered her work onto the site & wants to keep being reminded

- Time to meet with Janet re: selling lots to eligible buyers: Dick and Annette agreed to meet Janet on Thursday morning, if she is free
- Burial fees/regulations for Springfield were compared to other towns' and we noted that Frank had suggested raising the rates. Our interment fees are roughly similar to neighboring towns.
- Finances:
 - Employee question – Leigh did not attend, but Cody has assumed full-time status. In 2012, Frank's mowing (@14.13/hour x 198 hours, as calculated for a Trust Funds/Perpetual Care discussion): \$2,797.74
 - 2017 Expenses: Pete and Cody reported that a \$70 load of loam had been purchased from United Construction and some mowing has been done
- To keep our assets looking good and functioning well, we discussed:
 - Stone Repair – Stone Vault will come when it is drier
 - Planting trees along approach road would be attractive, but since the town plows that road in winter, may not be practical
 - Roads / drainage - watching
 - Garden Club - planted flowers by the flag pole; Pixie Hill and Susan Chiarella were credited by Tamara
- Sexton question – Josh Wise did not attend.
- Other topics
 - Peter and Cody requested maps. Tamara found one of the upper cemetery and another of the main burial ground in the lower section. Dale offered to take those to Flash Photo for copying and scanning.
 - Pete and Cody reported that the Fowlertown cemetery is inaccessible. The Class VI road on the Springfield side is flooded from heavy spring rain and perhaps also, beavers. We need to revisit this question when water levels drop.
 - The Dutchman's Pond Cemetery needs a tree removed.
 - Dale will request a spot in the office to store our important cemetery paperwork.
- MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:30
- NEXT MEETING: JULY 5

Respectfully submitted,

Dale T Milne, Chair