

## May, 2017: Springfield, NH Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

**DRAFT**

PRESENT: Richard Petrin, Dale Milne, commissioners; Peter Abair, SHD; Joe Kealy, Eagle Scout candidate and volunteer; Theresa Quinn (at Pleasant View, 5:15); Annette Granger, Commissioner; Tamara Butcher, Selectboard; Charles Moore (Town Office, 5:30).

Pleasant View Cemetery did not sustain a great deal of damage from the winter. Peter thought that the prisoners lined up for May 4-5 could do their work in one day, since Frank and Cody cleared most of the 2016 leaf fall before the snow arrived. The roads need gravel; the work to be done by SHD with the cost for materials to come out of the Cemetery budget. The new sign by Peter Maurer, near the flagpole, looks crisp and attractive, but the granite posts holding it are loose in the ground. Joe pointed out where in that area he intends to put a slab and picnic table. There seemed to the group not to be enough room for a third bench in that area. In view of Frank's passing, Joe will depend upon Peter Abair for additional help and advice. He was given Leigh Callaway's number, as well.

The Commissioners read and approved the April, 2017 meeting minutes, with one correction, and reviewed Frank's 2017 "to do" list. Peter agreed that trees need to be taken down at Messer Hill. He will contact Fox Tree to arrange the work. He will also keep an eye on the developing sink holes at Pleasant View. Dale will assume the job of contacting Stone Vault for stone repair in the upper portion, once a suitable section of damaged stones is identified & prioritized, probably July. Peter wondered how a full burial for Rick Cole can be accomplished on May 11, without extensive damage to the wet ground. There was some discussion of the exact spot that Rick's casket can be interred. Pete also commented that, to level the steep bank behind Rick's plot, an excavator would need to be used. We may need to revisit the feasibility of that project.

Tamara said that plans toward the Memorial Day celebration on May 28 at 10:00 are proceeding and that she & Kenny will see that the flags are placed on Vets' graves. There will be no service in the upstairs of the Town Hall, for accessibility reasons.

The next agenda item was the signs to be placed at Messer Hill and Davis Hill. The Maurers are pleased that we liked the large Pleasant View sign and await Dale to order the two new signs. Dale will need to find a safe spot to hang them. Davis Hill is close to the road, so theft could be an issue.

Mapping and record-keeping will be a challenge, without Frank. The stones we purchased for the unmarked graves raised the question of how to find the correct spots to place them, without Frank's help. We had agreed in April to order six more, but will put that on hold until we have more information. Annette Granger is interested in archives & eager to work on them. Tamara was urged to share her digital records on the town's website. Peter would like to have an accurate map to assist him with burials. Sue Anderson's name was brought up as a possible resource for answers. It was mentioned that Frank stored a number of Cemetery items at his house. Chuck will approach the family and is willing to collect any materials from them. Janet Roberts is willing to sell lots to purchasers from the Town Office. Annette and Dick volunteered to be her CC contacts for those transactions. Most attendees felt they could find the outlying cemeteries at Fowlertown and Tilsen Place, though not all have visited the Dutchman's Pond burial site. That may be worth a trip.

Joe Kealy reported that he has sent a request to Carroll Concrete for an estimate for a pad to go under his proposed picnic table. He priced aluminum flag holders to replace the plastic ones now in use, and the cost came to \$810. He's not sure that is possible, as his funding is limited. We urged him to concentrate on the picnic table and do his best job with that.

Before adjourning at 6:15, Tamara announced that Frank Anderson's visiting hours would be Saturday, May 6 4-5:00 @ Chadwick's, with the burial to be Sunday, May 7 at 2:00 @ Pleasant View.

Respectfully submitted, Dale T Milne, Chair

SPRINGFIELD, NH CEMETERY COMMISSION  
AGENDA – JUNE 6, 2017

Pleasant View Cemetery: 5:00

- Survey the condition of the graveyard
- Iron bar behind flag pole
- Erosion
- Joe's project
- Other issues?

Town Office Building: 5:30-6:30

- May meeting minutes
- Memorial Day Report - Tamara
- June 19<sup>th</sup> NH DOJ Trustees' meeting - Dale
- Picnic table project - Joe Kealy
- Messer Hill issues (Trees, sign, gate) – Dale & Peter
- Record-keeping & lot sales\*\*\* #1 in "Powers & Duties" by-laws & regulations for Cemetery business (our successors should not inherit our problems)
  - Records on website – Tamara
  - Time to meet with Janet re: selling lots to eligible buyers
  - Burial fees/regulations (Plus times & notice for burials?)
- Employee question – Leigh (In 2012: Cost to mow by Frank: 14.13/hour x 198 hours = \$2,797.74)
- Keep our assets looking good and functioning well
  - Stone Repair
  - Planting along approach road
  - Roads / drainage
  - Garden Club
  - Trust Funds/Perpetual Care
- Sexton question – Josh Wise

- Other topics