

Cemetery Commission Meeting
April 29, 2019 10:15 AM
Municipal Building, Rm 204

In attendance: Mike Horne, Chair; Sharron Champagne ; Denise Cascio Bolduc
Others: Nancy Philbrick

The meeting called to order at: **10:23**

Minute Review: **March 14, 2019- Motion to Accept by Sharron Champagne, 2nd by Denise Cascio Bolduc**

Record keeping:

Sale of cemetery lots:	Cemetery	Lots
Laurie and Michael Rouleau	Martins	#836

Interments:

None

Current Budget:

Funded: \$841 Expended to Date: \$420 (49.94 %) Unexpended: \$421
(see page 2 for budget plan)

\$20 to pay NHCA membership for Nancy Philbrick

Old Business:

Town Council annual update briefing of the Cemetery Commission on April 10th.

Mike provided a report for the Council *see attached

Gold Start Project in Head Cemetery:

McKenzie Connor provided Denise with a draft of the Project. Denise advised McKenzie of several corrections on the 1st document of 2. Denise requested that a review be completed and re-submit.

May 18 (Sat) – Hooksett Heritage Day at Head Cemetery & School House: Plan Cemetery Commission’s involvement – **Mike along with Nancy will be attending from 10 – 12:30. The Heritage Committee asked if Mike would open the Tomb for spectators. They will plan on having a map of the Head Cemetery on hand also.**

Cemetery Commission needs to check the graves from the past 12 months to make sure they were all loamed and seeded: No action taken to date (winter weather)

Draft a Hooksett Cemetery Commission standard operating procedure (SOP), which will include all duties and responsibilities of the trustees so the workload can be better balanced based on trustees’ skills and available time.

The trustees discussed the importance of getting this project started.

Mike went over Right To Know Meeting requirements briefly with Nancy.

- 1) It was asked of the trustees to review the current Rules and Regulations and note changes they would like to discuss at the next meeting.**
- 2) Denise, I would like to review the Regulation of Non Residents purchasing lots.**
- 3) Update cost of lots and update cemetery(s) regulations.**
- 4) Tree and shrub removal**

New Business:

Update on proposed tree removal at Head Cemetery

Mike will talk to Phil about removing a large pine tree before it does damage to any of the head stones.

Denise commented that there were several stumps that should be removed from Martin Cemetery

Mike will ask Phil about grinding them out and see if it is a budget Item

Next meeting: coordinate a date for a Work Day

Change of Cemetery Trustee: Thanks to Denise for six years of service as a Trustee

Kathy will check with Nick Germaine if there is a way to keep Denise involved with the Commission.

To Do List:

Update CemeteryFind for available lot and update Maps of Martin and Heads to reflect available lots

At some point, trustees need to look at how markers and headstones are laid out and some will need to be realigned to make Head Cemetery more presentable and orderly.

Change from deeds where owners own the property to where owners are given the right to inter.

Another field visit to Head Cemetery to continue our validation work with CemeteryFind against monuments there. Need to resolve the 8/31/17 field session questions before going on another site visit.

Get information from the Pembroke Cemetery Commission to determine who created the online maps of Pembroke cemeteries. <https://www.pembroke-nh.com/cemetery-commission/pages/cemetery-maps>
Denise has a name (Victor/VJ) at Public Works: 485-4422.

Determine which lots in Head and Martins cemeteries will be subdivided and made into smaller lots for cremains burials. Update maps and place metal pins.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 30th 8:30am - 10

Meeting adjourned: 11:45--Motion to Adjourn made by Sharron, 2nd by Denise

Minutes submitted by Kathy Lawrence

Cemetery Commission Budget - FY 2017-18 Request and Final Budget approved		1/20/2017	
Account	Description	Requested Amount	Approved Amount
001-660.4195-294.000	CEM Training & Dues Dues for NH and NE Cemetery Association	\$ 40	40
001-660.4195-342.000	CEM Software & Programs Yearly subscription to on-line CemeteryFind database of Hooksett's cemeteries.	\$ 750	750
001-660.4195-438.000	CEM Grounds Maintenance Fence maintenance at Head Cemetery Cut/repair/pave some sections of pavements in Martins Cemetery Road that have failed. Posts along the road of Matins Cemetery to keep traffic off graves	\$ 1,800	1
001-660.4195-600.000	CEM Office Supplies Stakes to mark graves, flagging materials, etc.	\$ 50	50
Total Cemetery Commission		\$ 2,640	841

Historic cemeteries have tales to tell...are you listening?

Okay, we'll admit it. It's Halloween and perhaps doing a story on cemeteries is a bit obvious. But at the NHDHR, we're big fans of cemeteries and the variety of stories they tell.

The next time that you are out for a walk or drive, take some time to explore a historic New Hampshire cemetery and consider the following questions:

Where is the cemetery located? What does that say about the relationship between the people who lived -- and who still live -- in the community and those are buried there?

When was the cemetery established? Is it still actively being used? Where are the oldest plots? How has it expanded? Are there any indications that certain groups of people were buried in certain sections?

Who is buried there? Can you identify family names that are still in town? Do you see patterns of relatives who have been interred close together or even far apart? Is there anyone famous -- or infamous -- interred?