



CEMETERY TRUSTEES
Town of Greenland · Greenland, NH 03840
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Tuesday, November 23, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Bob Ellwood, Michele Kaulback, Donna Waldron

Also Present: Paul Hayden - Sexton

M. Kaulback opened the Cemetery Trustees meeting at 7:03 p.m. A roll call was taken by the Chair; she announced a quorum was present and the meeting was being recorded. Also present were Dick Rugg and Jim Rolston.

1. Other Business

Jim Rolston, 1-3 Carlton Drive: J. Rolston stated the flags have been removed and that they were very poor quality. P. Hayden noted that the flags were cut shorter this time and seemed to last longer and were not whipped around as much. J. Rolston stated the Vet's voted to completely replace the flags every year. Stakes have also been ordered.

J. Rolston stated that the 300th Anniversary Committee would like to help fix the gravestones at the cemetery. He asked for an estimate to make the repairs and encumber the funds. B. Ellwood stated that some of the stones were too large for them to repair. P. Hayden suggested using the funds to have something made to help with the larger stones. B. Ellwood asked how a stone weighing several thousand pounds could be repaired.

D. Rugg, 25 Stratham Lane, suggested making a list by quarters of stones that need to be repaired. 50% of the funding needed for repairs could come from the Perpetual Care Fund because it would be maintaining the cemetery; it cannot be used for roadways or pathways. A quarter at a time could be done professionally. P. Hayden stated the stones that they are having issues with do not have concrete and are on dirt.

D. Waldron suggested forming an allegiance with the Old North Cemetery in Portsmouth for a team project; they had a similar problem maintaining the Old North Cemetery. They may be able to provide a name of someone who has helped them.

J. Rolston told the Cemetery Trustees that in order to hold the money for them, it needed to be encumbered. He would need a bill by the end of the year to encumber funds.

D. Rugg stated that they may not agree with the way he does things, but they should all agree that they are here to benefit the Town of Greenland and the cemeteries. He reviewed the paperwork he distributed to the Trustees (a copy for the file was not available). D. Rugg stated the Cemetery Trustees should present their budget to the Budget Committee. He continued the cemetery looked like 'a pig

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pen' because they did not have the money to do what they needed to do. P. Hayden stated the roots cannot be dug up without causing a problem: they go to the live trees on the other side of the fence. D. Rugg continued that the Town will need to purchase land for a cemetery. He recommended that the Trustees let the Town buy the land. The Trustees could take the \$100,000 they have to prepare the land as a cemetery after it is purchased by the Town. B. Ellwood commented that several years ago the Smith Farm wanted to sell the Trustees some land for a cemetery. It was brought to the Selectmen and nothing happened.

D. Rugg reviewed a stipend and earlier budgets with the Trustees. He concluded that discussion by stating that they should get a chart of accounts; it was their budget and they should control it. D. Rugg felt the Trustees should go to the Budget Committee themselves. M. Kaulback will research use of funds in the Cemetery General Fund; she thought those funds could be used for roads in the cemetery. The Trustees received quotes several years ago to repair the cemetery road. D. Rugg stated they should not take money from a Capital Reserve Fund to do maintenance; it should come from current expenses.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of Tuesday, October 26, 2021: B. Ellwood corrected *Wayne's* to *Lane's* in Item 4.

MOTION: M. Kaulback moved to approve the minutes of Tuesday, October 26, 2021, as amended. Second – B. Ellwood; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

3. Flags and Other Business

P. Hayden stated that the Police Department and Fire Department are supposed to take down their own flags. Responding to a question from M. Kaulback, P. Hayden stated the old flowerpots are usually picked up in the spring. The cemetery will be closed for the winter when it snows. B. Ellwood commented on the grass and leaves in the cemetery—he estimated there were five truckloads. P. Hayden stated there is a little debris; the leaves are from the old cemetery and all the clean ups. He dumps it up there and it was pushed back. P. Hayden has been dumping there since he mowed for the Town and as a contractor.

B. Ellwood has taken down the flags/streamers in the lower cemetery remaining from the Tricentennial. D. Waldron stated the Historical Society had a virtual tour that was connected to the streamers. She was going to remove them October 31 but the first couple of weeks in November were very mild and members of the Historical Society wanted to leave them up for two additional weeks.

B. Ellwood commented that he has been on cemetery tours: big cemeteries have pamphlets available. He suggested a guide for getting around the cemetery would look a lot nicer than the streamers. It was noted the streamers were no longer going to happen and it only for the 300th Anniversary tours. D. Waldron stated that the tour would be available on the Greenland Historical Society website.

M. Kaulback asked if they should research machinery that may help lift up the stones. B. Ellwood responded they would have to make something and suggested a tripod. P. Hayden stated an aluminum tripod would work best; it is light but strong. He suggested an aluminum tripod with a chain hoist would help with a stone on a base.

There was a discussion about mowing estimates that were requested by the Board of Selectmen.

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4. Adjournment

MOTION: B. Ellwood moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Second – M. Kaulback; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, December 28, 2021 – 7 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room

Submitted By: Charlotte Hussey, Administrative Assistant