



CEMETERY TRUSTEES
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Bob Ellwood, David Gill, Michele Kaulback

Also Present: Paul Hayden - Sexton

Chair Gill opened the Cemetery Trustees meeting at 7:04 p.m. A roll call was taken by the Chair; he announced a quorum was present and the meeting was being recorded.

1. Signage at Hillside Cemetery – Historical Society

Leonard Schwab and Donna Waldron, Historical Society, addressed the Trustees. D. Waldron thanked the Trustees for adding them to the agenda. She is new to Greenland and a new member to the Historical Society. She is totally embracing their mission, which is to preserve the Town's historical artifacts and history, and educate the public so they will be active and want to be involved. D. Waldron was a member of the Burlington (Vermont) Cemetery Commission for six years. She would like to educate the public on the cemeteries in Town by offering tours at various times during the year. Cemeteries tell a story that can't be found in textbooks; there can be amazing education found on the engraved headstones.

D. Waldron recently read the signage at the gazebo near the Church about the historic building across the street. Knowing nothing about the building, she thought the marker was great. The Historical Society asked for the Cemetery Trustees permission and support to put up a historical marker for Hillside Cemetery.

D. Waldron found out from John Hirtle it was an Eagle Scout project, and he helped with the wording. Pat Walsh and Zac Signage worked on the signage. She has spoken to P. Walsh about the marker. He was more than happy to help with a marker at Hillside Cemetery. Their thought was to put the marker by the gate at the entrance of the cemetery. They would like to include some history of Hillside Cemetery, possibly going back to 1705 and something about the symbolism on the markers. There are notable people buried in the cemetery.

The Historical Society is unsure of the cost of a marker. They see this as a step to educate people about the cemetery. D. Waldron added that the heart of the history of New England towns is in the cemeteries. They are hoping signage will educate and draw Greenland residents to the cemetery.

Chair Gill stated that, personally, he thought it was a phenomenal idea. He wanted the Trustees to be involved in the creation of the markers. Members were in agreement it was a great idea. There was a discussion about the gate at the cemetery.

DRAFT – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Chair Gill suggested they needed to know the right type of sign for the environment and long term. When they repair stones, they look at long term and what needs to be done to preserve them. L. Schwab stated that rivets into the granite made sense for a long term marker. P. Hayden suggested mounting it to a rock or boulder that can't be moved; lag screws can be used to mount it. B. Ellwood suggested engraving the rock.

MOTION: Chair Gill moved that the Cemetery Trustees support the Greenland Historical Society with their creation of cemetery markers. The Cemetery Trustees would like to be involved in the process. Second – M. Kaulback; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

The Historical Society will meet with the Trustees as the process progresses. P. Hayden recommended they not use brass markers. Chair Gill suggested contacting a local granite company; they may donate a stone. P. Hayden recommended contacting Stratham Hill Stone; they do the engraving on the stones in Remembrance Park.

2. Update Maps

The last purchase was by Priscilla Bourassa for eight lots (two, four person plots). Chair Gill explained to D. Waldron that they are working on digitizing the cemetery information. Chair Gill asked that everyone bring their maps to the next meeting.

3. Review Lot Pricing

Chair Gill felt lot pricing was okay and will include it when meeting with the Selectmen. P. Hayden suggested he call Portsmouth, Stratham, North Hampton, and Rye for their pricing before meeting with the Selectmen. M. Kaulback noted pricing is available on some of the websites. P. Hayden felt pricing for cremation burials in Greenland may be too low at \$150 and \$200 on the weekends.

4. Update on Land Purchase

Chair Gill will try to meet with Alan Smith this week. The Trustees are interested in purchasing the land and will make a presentation to the Selectmen. Chair Gill stated the Town has enough land to last for six to seven more years for 70 caskets; there's more than enough land for cremations.

The Trustees discussed what information should be given to the Selectmen about the purchase of land. B. Ellwood suggested letting them know how many lots are available and that lots are being sold at a rate of "x, y, z"; land is available and if the Town passes on this, there may not be another opportunity to purchase land this size in the future; there are no trees on the land, it's a field and doesn't need to be cleared. Chair Gill suggested not purchasing the entire eight acres at once, but a few acres at a time. P. Hayden suggested talking to A. Smith about a discounted price if he wanted to use the remaining acres for corn. B. Ellwood recommended selling the lots on that parcel at a price that would pay for the cost of the land. The parcel would be purchased at fair market value. P. Hayden added that test pits may need to be done to determine the water table.

5. Calendar/Schedule

Work dates have been scheduled: Sunday, September 30 – 8:30; Sunday, October 07 – 8:30; and Sunday, October 14 – 8:30. Road work is not scheduled for this year.

DRAFT – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

6. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Chair Gill moved to approve the minutes of Wednesday, June 27, 2018. Second – B. Ellwood; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

7. Other Business

P. Hayden told the Trustees there are a lot of branches hanging over the fence that need to be removed. He will cut them back.

B. Ellwood stated that some head stones are unstable and they may want to consider putting metal straps on them. Chair Gill explained to D. Waldron that they were looking for a long term solution to make the stone last because the glue won't last long. B. Ellwood stated that two straps are used on the front and two on the back, going through the stone. P. Hayden has a piece of flat metal (steel) that he can strips cut from. Stainless steel bolts would have to be used. Chair Gill suggested that the materials could be organized over the winter.

M. Kaulback noted that her term and B. Ellwood's term expire in 2020; there is no one being voted on in 2019. She thought B. Ellwood should have been voted on for a one year term and not two. P. Hayden will talk to the Town Clerk.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Chair Gill moved to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Second – M. Kaulback; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, October 23, 2018 – 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room

Respectfully Submitted: Charlotte Hussey, Secretary to the Boards

Approved: