

Cemetery Commission
February 11, 2010
Hooksett Public Library, 6:30pm

Present: Sharron Champagne, Mike Horne, Tina Paquette (phone connection)

Minutes: Reviewed minutes from Nov 23, 2009 meeting. Motion to approve (Mike), 2nd (Sharron), unanimously approved.

Public Input: No one other than trustees present. No other input received to review.

Old Business:

American Legion Post request for a veterans' memorial at Head's – nothing new (Mike)

Maintenance Issues:

- Mike stated he had seen that the town crews had done some trimming of trees and chipping brush at both Martins and Heads cemeteries. At Martins some effort was in the field to the west of the cemetery (future expansion area).

- Fence at Martins: Mike will get written quotations for the repair of bent and broken parts of the fence.

- Sign at Heads: Mike said he had communicated with Kathie Northrup and the metal sign had historic significance and he feels efforts should be made to repaint it in a color to match previous color. Maybe a paint chip is present and can be matched.

- Fence at Riverside: Mike volunteered to get quotes from a few vendors.

Review of Rules and Regulations: Some time was spent reviewing existing cemetery regulations (not dated). Discussion: para 3) (D) states "All monuments must be at the head of the graves unless exceptions are approved by the Cemetery Commission." Trustees agreed the monuments should be aligned on the same side, that there appears to be inconsistencies of recent installations. There was agreement para 7) should remain, though it is unclear if this written confirmation is happening currently. Para 8) fee of \$10 should be raised to \$25 to cover costs. There is no State RSA reference anywhere and those should be added where appropriate. More review was delayed until later.

Town Web Site (cemetery related): Some progress evident. Still would like ability to post minutes from meetings, regulations and policies, etc. Mike will continue to work with Evelyn.

New Business

Heritage Commission: Mike received an email from Kathie Northrup titled "Hall Mountain Cemetery", asking for information on the ownership and future maintenance of the private cemetery. She stated she was led to believe the cemetery was included in a recent Conservation Commission purchase and would now come under the responsibility of the Town. If that was the case, she wanted to know so she could update her records of Town owned historic sites. More research is needed (with Conservation Commission and at the State level).

Historical Society: Jim Sullivan emailed the cemetery commission, asking if the commission the society could donate new signs for the cemeteries, similar to signs at the Merrimack cemeteries. There was agreement of cemetery trustees on the concept of working with the historical society in getting signs at Heads, Martins, Riverside, and perhaps Gate (research still needed of Town's acceptance). Motion Mike, 2nd Sharron to move ahead with the cemetery commission approving final design (size, wording, etc.) and placement.

Hooksett Cub Scouts: Mike received a request from Cub Scouts to help in the maintenance of the cemetery by Clay Pond. More research is needed to determine if the cemetery is a Town responsibility or a family cemetery.

Consolidating files and maps in Town Hall: Mike offered to work with the Town Administrator to establish space in the 2nd floor store room for files that can be secured and limit to cemetery trustees only.

Other: Mike asked to have the cemetery prints be made in mylar to be more durable for record keeping. Motion by Tina, 2nd by Sharron to approve payment of \$41.49 to Signature Press.

Record Keeping:

Plot sales: no action recorded

Monument Approvals: no action recorded

Burials: no actions recorded

Next Meeting: It was agreed to meet March 3rd at 6:30.

Adjourn – Standing adjournment just prior to 8PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Horne
For Recording Secretary