

Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee Minutes

For: Wed. September 25, 2013

Members Present: Sheryl Romasco, Jill Kenrick, Roy Henry, Beth Butler and Mary Brundage
Members absent: None

Call to order at 10:00 AM.

Minutes of July 17, 2013 reviewed and approved.

Motion made by Beth to accept the minutes of July 17, 2013 and seconded by Roy.

Unanimous vote; motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Invoice from Chris Cota for the 2013 Summer Maintenance/Mowing of 15 Historic Cemeteries:
Committee reviewed and discussed submitted clean-up & mowing invoice.

Motion Made by Beth to accept and pay the invoice from Chris Cota for a total cost of \$2,730.00 for the 2013 summer maintenance of 15 Historic Cemeteries; seconded by Roy. Vote unanimous, motion approved.

Money to be taken from the following cemetery accounts:

\$70.00 – Gideon Mowry

\$130.00 – Southwick

\$450.00 – Norden

\$2,080.00 – Old Center School

\$2,730.00

2. Cemetery Account Funds reviewed.
3. Gifford Cemetery #22 – In March 2013, Sheryl had spoken to Mr. Steve Bevilaqua, who had recently acquired the property which surrounds the Gifford Cemetery at 620 Quaker Highway and the corner of Ironstone Road. Mr. Bevilaqua had stated he would create a pathway to the cemetery, as well as buffer-area cleanup of the woods. Nothing done as of yet. Sheryl to contact him again, by email in the beginning of November to alert him that the Committee will be coming on site to access Gifford Cemetery's needs.
4. Stephen Holbrook Cemetery #35. – Summary below, concerning the status update of the Mountain View Estates Definitive Subdivision Modification Plan filed on 4/4/2013 with the Uxbridge Planning Board by applicant Lawrence Hill, Albee Realty Trust:
 - Sheryl and Jill to attend Planning Board Meeting scheduled for tonight, Sept 25, 2013, to present Cemetery concerns. Below is a portion of the specific Uxbridge Planning Board's Meeting Minutes concerning our committee's concerns:

"Mountainview Estates project represented by Cheryl Peterson of Heritage Design. All revised modifications were submitted to the Planning Board and Historic Cemetery Committee. The Historic Cemetery Committee was concerned about preserving the access way to the cemetery. It is unknown at this time who owns the cemetery. Specific language of the 'meets [sic] and bounds' and a Condition of Approval will be added to the individual deeds for Lot 1 & 2. This will be part of the permanent modifications (according to Cheryl Peterson).

Ms. Romasco and Ms Kenrick of the Historic Cemetery Committee wanted to be guaranteed access to the cemetery due to the fact that homeowners change over the years and a separate deeded access would guarantee that the committee would be able to access the cemetery now and in the future without issues from neighbors.

Ms. Peterson stated that the Applicant, Albee Road Realty, had a title report prepared and 'to our knowledge, the Applicant does not have title to the cemetery property.' The report will be re-examined and in the event that Albee Road Realty has ownership of the cemetery, title will be transferred to the Town of Uxbridge.

Results of core samples will wait until Graves has an opportunity to review report.

Ms. Peterson reviewed the original report from EarthTech dated June 26, 2006, regarding Sight distance. Mr. Leonardo suggested that the fence be removed to improve safety and Sight distance.

Ms. Peterson was requesting approval to install a foundation, well and septic system on Lot #2. A bond is not yet in place and Lot has not been released."

Source: Uxbridge Planning Board Meeting Minutes – 9/25/2013

5. Buffum Cemetery #25 (115 Buffum Rd):
Wooden posts to protect the Buffum & Gideon Mowry #15 (92 Glendale Rd.) cemeteries' stone walls from passing cars have not yet been repaired by the DPW. Sheryl to remind Ben Sherman via email of our repair requests.
 - Also a committee discussion that concerns Buffum Cemetery # 25, the cemetery does indeed have a separate cemetery deed, but that around 1993, as part of an Uxbridge Planning Board Approval of an "81P" surveyed plan, (Approval not Required), that the frontage required for an adjoining parcel's house lot, included the cemetery's road-side frontage into the house lot. As a result, the Uxbridge Assessor's office's database, lists 115 Buffum Road (Map 32/Lot 3648) as the completed house/home lot (2.47 acres); owned by Dana Nichol & Gwendolyn Mitchell with a picture of the Buffum Cemetery #25; rather than a picture of the house. And Buffum Cemetery is not listed separately in the Assessor's records.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New Historic Cemetery Committee Member: Sheryl presented to members that Mr. Bill Martin is interested in joining our committee, filling one of two vacancies currently open. Sheryl to email Town Manager/Selectmen's Office for approval of the "Talent Bank" application form.

**Motion made by Jill to endorse the nomination request of adding Bill Martin to the Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee upon formal approval/vote of the Uxbridge Selectmen.
Seconded by Roy. Unanimous vote, motion approved.**

2. Update given by Roy Henry on conditions found at the following historic cemeteries:
 - Joseph Richardson Cemetery #14 (195 King Street): On the high tension line leading to the entrance of the cemetery, new shrub & brush growth has been removed by electric company. A new gate and fence work by the electric company has also helped to prevent any new disturbances or damage from occurring in the cemetery by vandals.

- Shove Cemetery #11 (555 Chocolog Road): Only trimming on the left side of the gravestones with leaves and debris being left on the middle side of the cemetery lot/enclosure. Need to check with the landowner who lives next door to the cemetery to ensure that their raking/clearing is not the cause. Sheryl to ask & have Chris Cota to investigate.

Schedule of Next Cemetery Committee Meetings for 2013:

- Wednesday, November 13, 2013 @ 10:00 AM at Mary's House on Buffum Rd
- Christmas luncheon get-together? Location to be decided.

Motion made to adjourn at 11:40 AM by Beth, seconded by Roy. Unanimous vote.

Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee

U.H.C.C. Meeting Minutes for September 25, 2013

Approved unanimously on Wednesday, November 13, 2013:

Jill C. Kenrick

Mary H. Brundage

Ray Henry

Bob Butler

Sheryl Romanow

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Kenrick
Secretary
Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee