

Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee Minutes

For: **Tues. April 11, 2017**

Members Present: Jill Kenrick, Beth Butler, Roy Henry, Bill Martin, Mary Brundage, and Susan Ito.

Absent: Sheryl Romasco

MAY 8 '17 PM 1:00

Received by
Uxbridge
Town Clerk

Call to Order:

Minutes of the November 8, 2016 U.H.C.C. Meeting, reviewed and approved.

Motion made by Beth to accept the Minutes of November 8, 2016 and seconded by Roy. Motion passes 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Accounts/Trusts Update & Review:

- Printed Cemetery Accounts were reviewed with corrected balances up to March 31, 2017. Sheryl had contacted Town Accountant earlier and she had two corrections, which were made prior to this Committee's review today. Balances are in order.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring Cemetery Inspection Visits:

- Sheryl updated committee that due to an injury, that Nick Romasco was unable to begin his inspections for winter damage assessments this prior weekend as originally planned. He will begin assessments soon.
- Roy and Bill visited **Gifford Cemetery #22 – 620 Quaker Highway**, at the request of other committee members after noticing new stacks of logs near the boundary of this cemetery which sits higher than the road in a wooded site. Roy & Bill first knocked on the abutting homeowner's house. Permission was given by the neighbor to access cemetery site from Old Ironstone Street side. No cleanup of this cemetery had been done by the landowner as thought. Cut wood was from tree limb cuttings done by electrical company – National Grid – as routine telephone/cable street lines prevention. Conditions of this cemetery is poor, with damaged stones, surrounded by saplings/trees. Roy stated that no further erosion or removal of ground on the perimeters of the cemetery had occurred since properties' ownership changes. Still need Nick Spring assessment on scope of a cleanup for this cemetery.
- Beth, Mary & Sue together will visit & assess conditions at most of the cemeteries in South Uxbridge areas on Thursday afternoon, April 20th. Written assessments to be discussed at the May 9, 2017 Committee Meeting.

2017 Summer Maintenance & Mowing Budget Estimates:

- Reviewed with a discussion of Nick Romasco's 2-page Estimate of Mowing & Maintenance of potential costs/needs of cemeteries, based upon what was done in 2016 season. Committee members had comparison of 2017 estimates with Nick's

earlier sheet of 2016 work completed as of October 27, 2016. Of note is that this year's projected estimates are that any Spring cleanup of specific cemeteries will be done only if necessary, and that Nick will still be submitting his assessments to the Committee before any work is done at the May 9, 2017 Meeting.

- Discussion by Committee that the estimated amounts of needed mowing at many of the cemeteries may well prove not to be needed as frequently this year. Last year's **gypsy moth infestation** has led to predictions that in 2017 gypsy moth infestation will be worse – with surrounding trees at cemeteries being stripped of leaves, less mowing needed for drought/sun on ground conditions.
- **A. Mowry Tomb #26 – 672 East Hartford Ave.** – Committee members who had viewed this cemetery site after Nick's cleanup work, completed last Fall, felt that the improvements he made were excellent. Some members questioned if saplings/brushes at roadside front should be removed this year? Also, due to the uncertain status of surrounding property ownership?
- **Morse Cemetery ##17 – 382 Elmwood Street** – Cleanup estimate still needed, but last Fall, pathway from road is completely blocked by a fallen tree and massive amounts of poison ivy in area. Discussion of Committee is that the current property owners of the land surrounding the cemetery are the Dickerson's, (not Gallo). Committee members' concern that poison ivy spraying on pathways may not be wanted by property owners and should only be done within the perimeter of the cemetery. Little grass in this cemetery for any mowing.
- **Baalis Bullard Cemetery # 29 – West River Road** – Committee member discussion of the current outreach to the surrounding property owner by Chairman Sheryl. Reminder that this cemetery was extensively cleaned up by Committee members in the 1997-1998-time period.

Memorial Day – May 29, 2017:

- Placement of American Flags on Veterans' graves by Committee members has been scheduled for **Sunday, May 21st**. Committee members will meet and begin at St. Mary's Cemetery at **8:00 AM**.

Joseph Richardson Cemetery/Video Surveillance Update:

- Jill to reconnect and contact Brandon Kibbe, Land Agent for TransCanada to learn more as to how the Fall/Winter camera surveillance at the cemetery has fared, and if camera monitoring assistance by Committee members would be helpful to TransCanada. Roy, & other members, also would like to make site visit and want Brandon to know prior to walking up to the cemetery.

Corrections Needed at the U.H.C.C.'s section of the Town of Uxbridge's Website:

- Jill to request through the Town Clerk's office of two omission/errors currently on the Town's website concerning our Committee. In delivering the Nov. 8th meeting minutes, Jill will request addition of Susan Ito's name to the committee; and ask for correction to 2017 Meeting Minutes section - as another town commission's 2017 meeting minutes has been inadvertently filed under our committee.

Schedule of Next Meetings/Events:

- **Tuesday May 9, 2017** at Sheryl Romasco's house - 19 Fisher Street at 10:00 AM.
- **Sunday May 21, 2017** - Volunteer placement of American Flags on Veterans' graves. Committee members to begin at 8:00 AM at St. Mary's Cemetery.
- **Tuesday June 20, 2017** at Sue Ito's House - 208 Albee Road at 10:00 AM.
- **Additional Meetings to be scheduled.**

Motion made by Mary to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 AM. Motion seconded by Sue. Voted Unanimous, 6-0.

Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee

U.H.C.C. Meeting Minutes for April 11, 2017

Approved unanimously on Tuesday, May 9, 2017:

Jill C. Kenrick

Sue St

Mary A. Brundage

Bob B

Bill Martin

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Kenrick
Secretary
Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee