

Cemetery Trustee Minutes 9/26/23

Meeting opened by Cheri at 7 PM in Andover Library. Present were: Cheri, Jim and Beth; also, visitor, Susan Huntoon (who might become our associate member).

Our minutes from the last meeting, 8/15/23, were looked over. A few minor corrections were needed...typos. Cheri made a motion to accept minutes with corrections and Jim made motion to second; all voted to accept minutes with the corrections. Also, it was noted by Cheri that from now on Beth will send approved minutes to Sexton, Dana Swenson, as he will post them on the town site. (Beth had been doing this thru July, 2022; she will send him missing minutes up to now as well.)

OLD BUSINESS

Mowing: We have had no complaints on the mowing. Lakeview looks really good; the Poulins have done a good job. Cheri went to the Selectmen's meeting this month to ask if we, the trustees, are still in control of hiring the mowers. They Indicated yes. Cheri has contacted the Poulins asking if they are interested in the job again next year and they said yes. They will be getting an estimate to us soon. We discussed whether the Poulins could also do tree/hedge trimming. Jim indicated that they are capable of that.

Scheduling our meetings on the town website: This has been done. Our meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at the Andover Library.

Gravestone Cleaning Oct 7: This will be in the cemetery behind the church in E Andover. There has not been a lot of interest this summer. We will think about maybe doing it once a month next year during the summer and more frequently in the Spring and Fall.

Cemetery Stone Repair: Keith did one large family plot with granite curbing in the old section of Lakeview and it looks Great! He also fixed ones in Old Center and one in the cemetery behind the church in E Andover.

We would like to take tours of more inaccessible cemeteries....Rollins, Fellows, Sam Hill, Brickyard Road: Beth will call Wood Sutton tomorrow to see if he can lead us to the one on Brickyard Road on Friday afternoon (9/30).

NEW BUSINESS

Repair work in cemeteries: Cheri had Les Fenton check out the broken gate in Old Center Cemetery; Les gave an estimate of \$345 and can work on this at his home over the winter and install next spring. We all looked over the estimate and agreed to have Les do this. Regarding stone repairs in other cemeteries, Cheri walked with Keith thru the cemeteries to make a note of what needs to be done. There is one in cemetery behind the church that rocks; Durgin has slates that need to be ; straightened; Center, there are several that need work; Keith will pick the 10 that have the most need to be straightened; Center also has one in the far left corner that is a tall one that needs attention (filial has crumbled and broken..it looks like someone might have

tried to climb it); several granite curbed family plots in Lakeview have one or more of the curbing that has fallen over. We have repair estimates on three of these: \$5,500; \$6,500 and \$5,500. After discussion, it was agreed that we choose the highest quote for next year.

Trust funds: We are still working with the trustees of trust funds to establish what monies we can use and what we can't; there is one maintenance fund with about \$10,000 that we could use for current maintenance projects.

BUDGET FOR 2024

Cheri presented our expenditures for the current year; we are within budget. We reviewed the budget for next year. It looks like we might need a total of about \$50,895 for 2024. This will depend on what the mowing estimate comes out to be.

OTHER BUSINESS

New flags: We usually buy new flags every year for the cemeteries. Cheri suggested that maybe we could take down the flag at Proctor when the cemetery is closed for the winter and save it to use another year or two. It seems unreasonable to leave it up all winter when it is not visible.

Projects: The fence at the cemetery behind the church in E Andover needs attention. It needs to be repaired, cleaned and painted. Who would do it?? We also need to do some pruning at the edges of the cemetery. The same or Old Center. In Proctor there are lots of new trees growing up where they shouldn't be. We should announce to the public that we will be doing some trimming in the cemeteries. Also, there is a stone in Proctor that has fallen over and off its base; it was placed by Laconia Monument and they were supposed to have tipped it back up. Cheri will remind them.

Next meeting on Tuesday, October 17 at 7 PM in the Andover Library.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Frost, Secretary