

Cemetery 7/23/2020 Minutes -APPROVED

Franconia Cemetery Trustees

Location: The Pavilion, Academy Street, Franconia NH

Meeting called to order at 9:20 a.m. by Chair Mary Brubaker

Attendees: Mary Brubaker, Robert "Chris" Collman and Jayne O'Connor. There were no members of the public present

1. Minutes from 6/20/2020

Motion by Chris to approve as corrected. Second by Mary. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

2. Since the last meeting:

a. Property lines on the south side of the main entrance road and inside the picket fence near the maintenance garage were cleared of encroaching branches. Thank you to Bill O'Connor and Eric Meth for volunteering assistance.

b. Golf cart purchased

The Trustees purchased a used 2016 two-seater Yamaha gas cart with fuel injection, a utility box, trailer hitch, roof and windshield. The price was \$4,199, the cart was purchased from North Country Gold Carts, and the money came from a donation from Barbara Holt. It was delivered to the Elmwood Cemetery, and when not being used is being kept in the Town Garage until more permanent storage is arranged.

Options and estimates for a storage area were reviewed, including: the vault (door would need to be enlarged, brick wall partially removed, interior drawers removed and ramp built), the shed (doorway would need to be enlarged), or in a lean-to to be built beside the shed (with a floor, and a roof that will hold the snow-load off the shed roof) were sought. Enlarging the shed door makes the most sense. **Chris moved to award the job of enlarging the shed doorway for up to \$ 1,000 to David Brewer. Mary seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.** Jayne will contact Brewer and Penny to let them know the work can be started.

c. A hedge trimmer was purchased for \$198.97. A bit over budget as an extra battery was purchased for it.

d. Chris has been cleaning stones at Elmwood using the D2 purchased this year (the only approved stone-cleaning solution) in the hand sprayer. He created a folder with a list of surnames, a list of PC plots and maps of Elmwood on the back covers of each in order to keep track of which stones have been cleaned. He also created a code for stone cleaning notes.

Jayne reported that she and Penny helped Amy Bahr clean the Bahr stone a couple weeks ago, with D2, and it came out very good. The stone needs to be straightened. Amy Bahr will enlist the help of Corey to straighten it.

e. There has been a delay in payment to Lapete's Lawn Care. Mary, Kim and Trevor Lapete are working to resolve the issue. From now on, we'll ask the town to put a copy of all mowing bills in Penny's mailbox so she can keep track of the number of mowings.

f. Memorial stone found: During cleanup, a stone was discovered adjacent to the Elmwood Cemetery for Moses Aldrick Quimby. Chris discovered Mr. Quimby is buried in Sugar Hill at Sunnyside Cemetery <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/63377909/moses-aldrick-quimby> and has contacted the Town office about what they would like to do with the stone.

g. Military Stone update: Chris researched the military stone found in the shed. It belongs to Edward Metz, who is buried in another state, and has no obvious connection to this town. Chris will contact the Veterans Association to find out what they would like to do with the stone.

h. Eileen Ball has been researching the “Honor Roll” at the Town Hall to learn more about those who served this country. It will help with updating our list of which graves get veteran flags, and Eileen asked if the Cemetery Trustees would allow it to be posted on the Cemetery page of the Town website. Chris offered to take this up with the folks at the Franconia Heritage Council, as he is a member.

3. Question on timeline of Elmwood and its burials:

Barbara's records show the Elmwood Cemetery was set up in 1871, yet there are 90 stones for people who died prior to 1871. Abigail and Arnold Dow are a good example. They are shown on the card as being buried in 2-3-22, and their memorial says she died in 1824 and he died in 1857. Chris and Jayne are working on this mystery. Chris contacted Kevin Johnson of the Franconia Heritage Museum and Jayne spoke with Eileen Ball to ask that if they come across any information on this to please let the Trustees know.

4. Reports on updates of individual to-do lists

Mary:

-Find the name of the new Trustee of the Trust Funds

The third (in addition to Karen Foss and Carol Walker) Trustee of the Trust Funds (voted in at Town Meeting) is Jan Cole. 823-8181 janbillnh@myfairpoint.net

-Work with the folks at the forge on the bollards and winter gates. *The Trustees voted 4/8/2019 to spend up to \$35,000 on roads and gate at Elmwood. Spent \$30,230. Now requesting bollards.*

-Remember to add two housekeeping warrant articles to next year's Town Meeting

Jayne:

-Research the Berlack check to be sure it gets credited to the CMF account (contacted Kim 6/22 and will remind her)

-Find out from Kim how we access the donation money from Barbara Holt to purchase the golf cart and other items on the budget paid by that donation (done)

-Finish marking the corners of lots without cornerstones

-Verify if she needs to retake the oath of office from Carol (don't have to)

-Add a pole saw to the tool purchases for next year

-Ask Kim if Corey and Jeremy can help Penny move the Willow stones out of the woods (Kim said they can. Expect it will be a while since the Town is down two employees)

-Arrange purchase and delivery of golf cart from North Country Golf Carts (done)

Chris:

-Check list of graves that have flags but are not on the list of Veterans. (List provided to Chris from Penny)

-Talk to Kevin Johnson at the Franconia Heritage Council about Eileen Ball's request.

-Make available to the public list of burials with names, maiden names, veteran status and others as permissible (Chris is working on this)

-Bring replacement Plexiglass for the map case on the side of the shed. He believes he has a spare piece at home that will fit.

-Check on inventory list for a polesaw

-Work with Sugar Hill sexton to find a home for the military stone in the shed

To Do List for Cemetery

- Change fencepost placements in Range 11 & 12 to better align with the ends of the ranges
 - Protect the corners of the Hultgren lot, which are being impacted by the road
 - Remove the stones from the woods outside the Willow Cemetery (Kim suggests Corey and Jeremy can help with this)
 - Order flags for next year
 - Decide what signs will be helpful at the Elmwood Cemetery
 - Produce signs for the end of the ranges
 - Develop a plan for next year's planned refurbishing of the perimeter fence
 - Update Rules and Regulations
1. Jayne had a phone call from Glenn Knobloch who writes books and does presentations on old cemeteries. He is working on a book about women in the New Hampshire cemeteries and is looking for interesting stories and memorial stones. She asked the other trustees for suggestions to send to him.

Chris mentioned Dr. Rideout, buried in Boston, who practiced in Boston. Her house was on Harvard Street in Franconia. Her husband was Jesse Rideout. Her husband had a livery stable in Boston.

Ella Shannon Bowles who wrote books, including the popular "Let me Show you New Hampshire."

Abigail Dow, the earliest death reflected in the Elmwood Cemetery

Sarah Welch, town historical and descendent of Luke Brooks who discovered the Old Man of the Mountain. It was noted that Chris Brooks can provide information on Sarah Welch.

1. NEXT MEETING SET FOR AUGUST 22 AT 9 AM
2. Motion at 11:05 by Chris Collman to adjourn. Second by Mary Brubaker. Approved by unanimous voice vote.