

Cemetery 9/16/2020 Minutes-DRAFT
Franconia Cemetery Trustees
Location: The Pavilion, Academy Street, Franconia NH

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Mary Brubaker

Attendees: Mary Brubaker, Robert "Chris" Collman and Jayne O'Connor. There were no members of the public present at the opening, but Bill O'Connor joined the meeting for the fence discussion.

1. Minutes from 8/22/2020

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

2. Sexton's hours for remainder of the season:

The Trustees reviewed the budget and determined the number of hours remaining for the season for the Sexton. Jayne will go over the budget with Penny and she can budget her time accordingly.

Penny has been averaging 18 hours per week. Motion by Chris to move money from the mowing budget to payroll to cover 90 hours for the remainder of the season, or about 12 hours per week for 7 weeks. Second by Mary. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

There will be a little money remaining in the mowing budget, and the Trustees would like Penny to find out if Trevor has a bagger or other equipment which can deal with the leaves at the end of the season.

3. Elmwood has three Burials pending:

1. Helen Dexter, full burial, Friday September 18, 2pm
2. George Mitton, cremation burial, Sunday September 20, 11am
3. Elizabeth Dexter, cremation burial, Wednesday October 7

Cory is aware of the burial dates, and Penny will let Trevor LaPete know, so he can coordinate his mowing around them.

4. Press release:

The press release about the historic front gate to the Elmwood Cemetery has been approved. Jayne will send it out to local papers with photos from trustees.

5. Rules and regulations:

Chris has started editing the Cemetery Rules and Regulations, and sent copies to the other Trustees for their suggestions. These will be discussed at future meetings.

6. Stone repair list:

Chris has developed a list of stones that need repairs, and has discussed some with Penny. John Hanks has been in the cemetery to make repairs on four or five stones.

7. Projects: Fence, tree clearing, and shed:

Volunteer Bill O'Connor stopped by and was thanked by the Trustees for his work on the perimeter fence this summer. Bill has worked with Penny and Eric Meth to clear brush and trees along the fence, and has made repairs, sanded and painted the fence from the Bertles lot in the back all the way around to near the Dexter lot. Bill said he hopes to get some more sections done before the end of this year. For

the next month, he is planning to continue working on the fence from the shed up about 100 yards. Next Spring, he hopes to continue, although he expects to be back working at his usual job in Franconia Notch a couple days a week, so his volunteer time may be limited.

The tree-clearing project has saved the Cemetery considerable money, as has the fence repair and painting. The Trustees thank Eric Meth, as well, for his many hours of work on the project. Penny has overseen these projects all summer. She is also overseeing the enlargement of the shed door (which started today) to accommodate the golf cart, and has cleaned and organized the shed.

8: Other Items Since the Last Meeting:

Jayne, Mary and Chris had independently looked around Route 18 for a cemetery shown on the 1860 map of Franconia in Sarah Welch's book "The History of Franconia, NH," without finding any indication of a burial ground. They will continue to seek information.

Jayne announced that the Cemetery records and lot cards she has had at her house since the Covid-19 pandemic started will be returned to the Town Hall vault this week, as she is expecting to be out of Town and wants them to be accessible.

Jayne made changes to the form submitted with payment checks to the Town Office for deposits, in hopes it will be easier to understand how they should be posted.

Chris will contact Cindy Berlack about helping him clean old stones. She has offered to volunteer with the fence project, but Bill feels stone cleaning might be more productive for her since he is winding down his work on the fence.

Mary reported that Tim Greene at the Forge is aware we need the bollards to protect the refurbished main gate, but they will not be ready for this winter. The Trustees discussed a plan to close off the front entrance to traffic, while still allowing the sidewalk plow to drive through the gate.

Next meeting Wednesday, October 14, 2020. Location TBD

Meeting adjourned by Chair Brubaker at 11:50 am

Respectfully Submitted,
Jayne O'Connor