

TOWN OF GILFORD  
CEMETERY TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 1, 2021

Attendance:

Trustees Pete Allen, Rae Mello-Andrews, and Kristin Snow and DPW Director Meghan Theriault were present.

Pete called the public meeting of the Cemetery Trustees to order at 4:05 pm in the Town Hall Conference Room. The attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment:

No members of the public were present.

Approval of Minutes:

The Trustees voted in favor of approving the minutes from the March 4, 2021 meeting.

Officers:

Pete made a motion to remain as Chair, with Rae as Vice Chair, and Kristin as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Kristin and all voted in favor.

Old Business:

*Status of cemeteries, staff, and contractors:* Meghan has posted for a seasonal full-time person staff person to maintain Pine Grove and McCoy Cemeteries. She has started conducting interviews but has had several no-shows and cancellations. Aaron Alpert has agreed to continue as a contractor servicing the town-maintained Historic Cemeteries.

*Pine Grove trees:* Meghan presented some options for trees to be planted along the northern fence line at Pine Grove Cemetery. Chippers proposed \$10,175 for Columnar Norway Spruce and \$8775 for Norway Spruce. Hayden McLaughlin at Belknap Landscaping suggested either Columnar Norway Spruce or Green Giant Arborvitae and is preparing price quotes. He suggested that the stumps from the trees that were removed be ground down. Matt Boucher will also provide price quotes for Columnar Norway Spruce or Green Giant Arborvitae and may suggest a third tree species. The Trustees will plan to review options at the May meeting.

*Computerized cemetery file updates:* Kristin completed the PDF map containing lot owners' names for Pine Grove Cemetery. Because the cremation section has small plots, she created a separate Excel file that shows those lots owners. She will confirm the locations by walking the cemetery this spring. She will continue to update the Pine Grove, McCoy, and Historic Cemeteries google sheets, which she downloaded and saved on the shared drive in Excel format this week. She will share the three google sheets with Meghan and Rae, so they have access to the active spreadsheets.

*Other Old Business:* None.

New Business:

*Recent Business:* Base on recent obituaries and information from Wilkinson-Beane, there are six expected burials for Pine Grove and McCoy Cemeteries. The Trustees answered several other requests for information.

*Opening of cemeteries:* The Trustees agreed to open the cemeteries on Friday April 9, as long as it doesn't snow during the week. The sod over two recent burials needs addressing. Kristin will call

Dignified Cemetery Services to come this week. Pete will unlock the Pine Grove gates so they have access before Friday.

*Google Earth cemetery project:* Kristin showed a Google Earth Gilford Cemeteries Project created by a local resident, which shows the locations and some details about cemeteries in Gilford. She will ask his permission to add a link to the Cemetery Trustees section of the Town of Gilford website.

*Other New Business:* A stone (Caleb Hatch) in the historic area of Pine Grove fell over the winter. The Trustees will do a walkthrough of all town-maintained cemeteries this spring, look for any other damages, and arrange for repairs where needed.

The NH Cemetery Association has decided that they will not collect dues this year.

Upcoming Meetings:

The next monthly meeting of the Cemetery Trustees will be held Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 4:00 pm in the Town Hall Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Snow, Secretary of the Cemetery Trustees

Approved by vote of the Cemetery Trustees on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.