

TOWN OF GILFORD  
CEMETERY TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 4, 2020

Members in attendance:

Pete Allen, Rae Mello-Andrews, Kristin Snow

Also present was DPW Director Meghan Theriault. Town Administrator Scott Dunn was present for a portion of the meeting.

Pete called the public meeting of the Cemetery Trustees to order at 4:00 pm in the Town Hall Conference Room and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment:

Craig Beane of Wilkinson-Beane Funeral Home was present at the start of the meeting at the Trustees' invitation. Craig provided price lists for cemetery services in Laconia. The Trustees will review and compare the prices to Gilford's current price list to determine if revisions are needed. Craig suggested that the price list be sent to funeral homes in Laconia, Meredith, and Alton. Pete asked if there should be a charge for permits to install stones, and Craig suggested contacting Charlie Beade or Laconia Monument for more information.

Craig explained the process he follows for scheduling and paying Dignified Cemetery Services and the Town of Gilford for burials at Pine Grove Cemetery. Pete noted that sometimes a family contacts the Trustees directly to schedule a burial. Craig said that the Trustees can refer those families to him and he will help make arrangements with the family and Dignified Cemetery Services.

Bill MacLean was present at the start of the meeting. Bill volunteers his time at Weeks, Liberty Hill, and Hoyt Cemeteries. Because there is a contractor who is doing cleaning and mowing at these cemeteries, Bill will focus his efforts on cleaning headstones at these and other historic cemeteries in town.

Approval of Minutes:

The Trustees voted to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2020 meeting with two wording corrections.

Old Business:

After hearing from members of the public, the Trustees have ordered flags that they will place at Veteran's graves this year. Meghan confirmed that flags had last been purchased in February 2019 and charged under the General Services line item.

Meghan reported that she is satisfied with the part-time seasonal employee working at Pine Grove and the contractor working at the historic cemeteries. DPW staff has been

mowing at McCoy cemetery and helping with weed whacking at Pine Grove. She has made an offer for the other posted position.

Kristin provided a draft update to the Cemetery Rules & Regulations documents. Rae and Pete will review and consider additional changes.

Earlier this week, Kristin picked up 6 replacement historic cemetery signs from Gator Sign Shop and has installed 5 of the signs. She repainted 13 cemetery signposts in town. She could not locate the Lamphrey Cemetery sign and will contact the adjacent landowners for further information.

The informational sign at Pine Grove had deteriorated and had out of date contact information so was removed in May. Kristin provided a draft of wording for a new sign. Scott will review the wording.

Meghan met with Belknap Landscape earlier this week about the damaged hedges along Belknap Mountain Road at Pine Grove. Belknap will report back about whether the hedges can be saved or should be replaced.

New Business:

Pete reported that 3 full lots and 1 cremation lot had been purchased. Three burials occurred since the last meeting. The Trustees reviewed cemetery financial statements provided by the Finance Director.

Kristin learned that Dignified Cemetery Services now offers repairs to damaged headstones. She will contact them for quotes on leaning and broken stones at Ames, Grant, Hoyt, and Weeks Cemeteries.

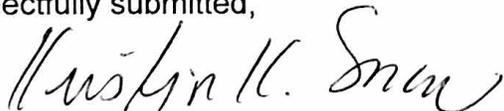
Pete and Kristin plan to attend the 2020 Municipal Trustees Training Virtual Workshop offered next week by the NH Municipal Association.

Next Meeting:

Due to scheduling conflicts, the Trustees agreed to reschedule the Thursday, July 2, 2020 meeting, which will instead be conducted on Thursday, July 9, 2020, starting at 4:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Town Hall Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Snow, Secretary of the Cemetery Trustees

Approved by vote of the Cemetery Trustees on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020.