TOWN OF GILFORD

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

July 7, 2022

Attendance:

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

Pete called the public meeting of the Cemetery Trustees to order at 4:05 pm in the Town Hall Cemetery Trustees Office. Members said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the June 2, 2022 minutes made by Rae and seconded by Pete. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Public Comment:

No members of the public were present.

Old Business:

Meghan reported that the contractor who has been maintaining the historic cemeteries has resigned for medical reasons. The seasonal employee at Pine Grove was let go in June. DPW employees are now performing cemetery maintenance tasks, but are short-staffed. Rae moved that we give Meghan the latitude to explore and hire per her judgment the necessary staff or contractors to continue the cemetery mowing and maintenance. Kristin seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

A resident continues to work with the State of New Hampshire, Wilkinson Beane Funeral Home, and a local monument company to move a small family cemetery within Gilford into 6 plots that have been purchased in Pine Grove Cemetery. Reinterment is expected to be done in July.

Volunteer Bill MacLean has been working on cleaning gravestones at Ames Cemetery. Rick Andrews has also offered to volunteer where needed.

Meghan reported that Lakes Region Fence Company provided an estimate for new fencing to replace the hedges at the front of Pine Grove Cemetery. The company suggested 5 foot high powder coated aluminum fencing that looks like wrought iron fencing. From the stone wall to the corner with Hawthorne Road is 400 linear feet at a cost $29,500. This price does not include costs to remove the hedge. Also, the cost to replace the aging chain link fence along Hawthorne Road with black chain link would be an additional $11,900. The Trustees discussed the costs but did not make a motion.

New Business:

Kristin reported that she is selling her home in Gilford and moving to Plymouth. She’ll have to resign as a Cemetery Trustee when her house sells, but offered to continue to help as a volunteer. A Gilford resident will need to be appointed to fill the remainder of her elective term.

There have been 8 burials to date in 2022. Six lots have been sold in Pine Grove Cemetery to date in 2022. The Trustees have been in contact with residents interested in purchasing lots in Pine Grove Cemetery and have assisted with locations for stone/marker placements.

The Trustees discussed that the current layout of the 6000-6035 lots in Pine Grove Cemetery does not match the original map drawn up by Sheldon Morgan. The Trustees will add new pins and revise the map appropriately. Four additional lots will become available in the northwest corner of the cemetery (lots 6000-6003 on the original map) and will need new lot numbers.

Pete contacted Charlie Beede of Beede Cemetery Works to ask if he has availability to do gravestone repairs. Charlie repaired one headstone in Pine Grove that had tipped over during the winter.

Upcoming Meetings:

The next monthly meeting of the Cemetery Trustees will be held Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 4:00 pm in the Town Hall Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Snow, Secretary of the Cemetery Trustees

Approved by vote of the Cemetery Trustees on the 4th day of August, 2022.