

Cemetery 5-14-2019 Minutes-**Approved**

Franconia Cemetery Trustees

Location: O'Connor residence, 133 Church St, Franconia NH

Meeting called to order at 8:40 a.m. by Mary Brubaker

Attendees: Mary Brubaker, Robert "Chris" Collman and Jayne O'Connor

Minutes

Motion by Mary to approve the minutes of 5/1/19, as corrected. Second by Chris. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Cemetery Records

There was a discussion as to having certain cemetery records uploaded to a cloud service like Google so updated records can be accessed by any of the three Trustees, and made available to future Trustees. These will include the lot cards, deeds, letters of interment, burial lists, special flag list, and other similar records. This will be convenient for Cemetery research, discussion and sales. The paper records at the Town Hall will be kept updated and remain the Town's official Vital Records.

Jayne made a motion to have Chris set up a generic Gmail account, RecordsFranconiaCemetery@gmail.com, and upload the files to the Google Cloud. Second by Mary. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Cemetery Credit Card

Town Administrator Holly Burbank advised the Trustees it will be easier for the Town to track purchases if the Cemetery has a Town credit card, and she will help set up the application process. Following discussion, Mary made a motion to authorize the Town to issue a credit card to sexton Penny Keeler with a \$1,000 credit limit. Second by Chris. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Map

The Trustees now each have a copy of the most recent cemetery map, which is a version of Gardner Kellogg's map from 2001 which was updated by Barbara and then Jayne.

Chris is working on the Excel map, and presented his most recent work, which the Trustees agreed looks very good. He is standardizing the lots, names and numbers so that each can be easily read. The Trustees recognize they will need to have funds available in the Cemetery budget for regular printings of the new map when it is ready.

The lot sizes throughout the cemetery are not always standardized; Jayne noted that the newer lots may have been mis-sized by placement of the cornerstones rather than measurements. This may result in a loss of a full lot in each section. Following discussion, she will attempt to standardize the available newer lots before more get sold, and work with Littleton Monument Company in future cornerstone settings.

Brush chipping

The Trustees appreciate the help of the Town crew in brush clean-up the previous week, as Kim Cowles and Corey Rush brought the chipper and helped Penny clean up the many branches which came down over the winter and spring.

Employee /Project Update

- The work truck is awaiting inspection by the Town crew to determine the cause of a gas leak and offer repair solutions.

- The shed floor still gathers water in the spring, following drainage work along one side, but it is not as bad as before and it does dry out.

Military Stone Question

Chris did some research for Greg Ball, who is looking for his brother's (Chris Ball) military stone, which may have been delivered to the Cemetery many years ago. The stone does not appear to be at the shed or the town garage behind the Cemetery, so Chris will contact Greg and suggest the Military be contacted to verify when and where the stone was sent.

Misc. Items

1. Chris asked if the Trustees would check the town garage next time anyone is near it to see if the D2 stone cleaning solution purchased by Barbara is stored there.
2. Jayne reported that Charyl Ross was agreeable to having her recently purchased lot moved so that it is away from the tree adjacent to the original location.

Damaged Stones

The Trustees are concerned about how to repair the Adelaide L. stone in the Willow Cemetery, which has fallen and is in pieces. They had planned to concentrate on the Adelaide L. stone rather than the George Maxwell stone (which has been repaired) but Penny told Jayne the George Maxwell stone actually moves easily where it is broken. There was discussion about who to contact to help with the repairs.

Jayne made a motion to contact and have the Trustees join the New Hampshire Old Graveyard Association (NHOGA) to help learn about preserving stones and topics associated with old graveyards. Second by Chris. Approved unanimously by voice vote. Jayne will contact the group and have the Franconia Cemeteries join.

Katherine Johnson

Chris added Katherine Johnson's name to the official burial list digital file. It had been left off, but was added in handwriting to the Cemetery book at the Town Hall. Chris will double-check the paper records from 2017 for any others that may need to be added to the digital file.

Motion by Chris at 10:10 am to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mary. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne O'Connor, Trustee
Franconia Cemeteries