

Cemetery Committee
May 15, 2019

Members Present: Andy Tolman, Marianne Perry, Grace Keene, Pam Osborn, Deb Doten, Karen Peterson, Brenda Lake, Warren Norris

Staff Present: Ben Rodriguez, Sexton

Meeting Minutes for April 17, 2019 were not available to approve at this meeting. They will be approved in June.

Welcome to new committee member, Warren Norris!

Sexton's Report: See Attached.

Karsten stone in KH Cemetery - Ben will reach out.

Volunteers for flags the Friday before Memorial Day. Missing holders should be notified.

KH tree work starting tomorrow

Stevenson Solution received the bid for tree work.

MOCA event has been discussed for the fall. More information is needed to confirm this event.

Fence at Dudley Plain: The Sexton/ Maintenance staff plan to purchase a 4 ft high powder coated aluminum fence from Lowe's. They determined that granite posts may be difficult to place. This is a fence that could be installed by the maintenance staff. The cost is estimated to be \$1500.00. There was considerable discussion as some committee members want information about the granite posts. The committee is not able to reach a decision without more information on the quality of the metal fence and without cost information on granite posts with chains.

Memorial Day: The flags are ready to be placed by volunteers from the Cemetery Committee. The grounds will be mowed and cleaned up completed by the Friday prior to Memorial Day.

Budget Update:

There is \$14,000 dollars left in the budget. The money is accounted for spending by June 30th with the exception of the fence at Dudley Plains and the \$4000 in stone repair. There will be immediate follow up with Collette on the plan to repair stones. The fencing expense may need to be a carry forward expense.

Long Range Planning Evaluation:

The draft was reviewed. Areas for clarification and improvement include:

- An accurate accounting of lots available.
- Space for columbarium.
- Update the information for repair of crypts and roads.
- Update tree work and replanting.
- Add information on record keeping software.
- Add information on the Sexton's ideas for public education.
- Add the information about the ordinance and rules (include a copy).
- Need for continual maintenance for gardens, stones, trees, etc.

Next Meeting: June 19, 2019 at 1:00

-Opening Statement and Summary-

Spring is certainly off to a fast start. When the weather has been favorable Ryan, Anna and I have been in the cemeteries picking up sticks and doing some light raking. I cannot forget to mention that Mr. Chabot and students from Kents Hill assisted in the cemetery spring clean-up process at Kents Hill Cemetery, which I am very appreciative of. Ryan and I almost completed clearing the underbrush in front of the old section of KH. And the final spring cemetery work of note is the first mowing and weed-whacking has been completed in the new section of East Readfield. I am excited to get some better weather to take advantage of in order to get all the cemeteries ready for Memorial Day.

Now that we are well on our way into spring (although it may not always feel like it), I have also been gaining experience assisting family members through the process of laying their loved ones to rest. I have been very grateful for Anna's assistance and patience answering any questions that I had and helping when needed. Residents of Readfield and even a few individuals from away have also been contacting me with requests for lot information. In all, this spring has provided me with plenty of educational opportunities to learn more about the many facets of being sexton.

The following report will include general topics for discussion rather than the longer descriptions that have become common.

Agenda Items:

-Memorial Day-

-Kents Hill Cemetery Tree Work-

-MOCA Fall Program-

