

Cemetery Committee Meeting Minutes for August 19, 2020

Conforming to Cononavirus rules, we met, masked and distanced, in lawn chairs under shady maples at the East Readfield Cemetery.

The meeting started at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Andrews Tolman - Chair, Deb Doten, Brenda Lake, Grace Keene, Pam Osborn, Ben Rodriguez - Sexton

Minutes of the previous meeting, June 17, 2020, convened via ZOOM Video
Teleconferencing: Accepted

Sexton's Report by Ben Rodriguez: Ben conducted a tour of recent work repairing, resetting, and straightening twelve old marble and slate tombstones, a complicated process. This work was, in addition, instruction for Ben as the Town has tools and equipment for accomplishing some of this type of work ourselves (on stones, not on monuments). Leading the project was Mr. Joseph Ferrannini of Grave Stone Matters, from Albany, New York. The cost for his services was \$700.00 a day for these five days (10-12 hour days) in the East Readfield cemetery for a total of \$3, 500.00. The repaired stones look hardy. Thank you, Ben.

Planning: We discussed starting work on trimming needy trees in the cemeteries now that we are in a new budget year. Ben will start identifying specific trees needing first attention. Select, over-tall leaders on a lilac near the north-east corner of East Readfield will be trimmed to the ground. This should encourage lower, bushy growth. A granite bench was suggested for the Kents Hill Cemetery.

Ben acknowledged how helpful Logan Watts was for four months this summer, especially with additional daily cleaning and other tasks in town buildings and the transfer station required due to the Coronavirus pandemic. He suggested one full-time seasonal worker would be very helpful although perhaps not anticipated.

Other business: We discussed the need for several new committee members and mused about the best times of day to meet to best accommodate members, a perennial question.

Warren Norris has stepped away from meetings for a while. We welcome his return when he can rejoin us.

Our next meeting is planned for September 16, 2020 (our usual third Wednesday), 1:00, at Case Cemetery, again on lawnchairs, masked and distanced acknowledging the Coronavirus pandemic.

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Riley Osborn, Secretary pro tem