

Cemetery Committee Minutes - May 16, 2022.

Accepted at June 20, 2022 meeting

Present: Andrews Tolman - Chair, Ben Rodriguez - Sexton, Brenda Lake, Grace Keene, Marianne Perry, Karen Peterson, Tom Molokie, Lee Livingstone, Pam Riley Osborn

The meeting started at 10:45 a.m.

Meeting Minutes: Karen moved and Tom seconded to approve the minutes for the April 25 meeting, as presented. No discussion. Unanimously approved. Approved minutes will be forwarded to the Town Clerk.

Sexton's Report by Ben Rodriguez: Ben provided a new supply of American flags for placement on veterans' graves, to be done soon. They will remain through Veterans' Day, November 11. Committee members will share the task this year, as in the past, but Ben will learn if Kents Hill School and Maranacook students might like to do this as a community project. The students might, as well, like to be involved in the cleaning of tombstones. Any tattered flags will be brought to Ben for proper disposal.

In preparation for Memorial Day, mowing by Ben, Matt and Noah has started. The weed whackers are back in operation but maintenance work on the Walker mower is not yet completed.

Some monuments at Readfield Corner need to be righted and straightened. Hugh LeMaster from Collette Monuments has been notified.

We expect Joseph Ferrannini of Grave Stone Matters in Albany NY will again work on major stone needs here in early August.

Taylor Stevenson of Stevenson Solutions in Wayne will do some tree work this summer. Ben and Taylor will confer.

Before Ben orders more supplies, Town Manager, Eric Dyer, will confirm the order.

Ben has been very busy with lot purchases, marker placements, and interments.

Ben and Marianne will plan a date to visit Longfellow's Greenhouses to purchase plants to replace winter-killed plants for Readfield Corner and East Readfield where the berms need attention.

Old Business: Andy reports that a warrant is being prepared for consideration to provide a well for use by those using the Readfield Corner Cemetery and for other community use, principally the ball field/Fairgrounds Community Park.

An oft visited topic may be nearing conclusion: A paving contract for roadwork on Church Road near the Readfield Corner Cemetery is close and is determined to be

wholly the financial responsibility of the Roads Committee budget, and not that of the Cemetery Committee. For years runoff from snow plowing has taken a toll on a mausoleum and close-by stone wall in that cemetery. Proper ditching is our hope for stopping the continued damage. We hope to be involved in the planning of this project and anticipate great success.

Budget: Because of a shifting of plans and expectations (reduced software needs, elimination of road work expense) the Committee has unspent funds in some lines. Reassignment of some important tasks to alleviate this are being worked on.

Chair declared adjournment at 11:14 a.m.

Next meeting is planned for June 20, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. at Kents Hill Cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Riley Osborn

Cemetery Committee