

Readfield Cemetery Committee Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2015
Approved June 8, 2015

Committee Members Present: Grace Keene, Marianne Perry, Deb Doten, Lydia Adelson, John Moran, Pam Osborn, Brenda Lake, Sandra Rourke

Committee Members Excused: Lorraine Wagner

Select Board Liaison: Excused

Staff: Karen Peterson, Sexton

The meeting began at 10:05 am at the Readfield Corner Cemetery.

Meeting Minutes:

Deb Doten reviewed the draft recommendations for changes and circulated revisions to the March 23, 2015 minutes. Marianne Perry made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Brenda Lake. Three minor grammatical revisions were made to the minutes. Motion carried (6 approved, 1 abstained, 1 not approved) with revisions.

Mission Statement:

Pam Osborn drafted the following mission statement for approval:

Mission Statement

The mission of the Readfield Cemetery Committee is to endeavor to preserve and maintain the integrity, character, beauty, and historical value of Readfield's cemeteries; and to monitor application of the Cemetery Rules to those ends. The Cemetery Committee will serve as an advisory board to the Select Board, the Town Manager, the Sexton and the Readfield community.

Brenda Lake made a motion to accept the mission statement. Marianne Perry seconded the motion. The mission state was approved 8-0 with minor revisions to be as follows:

Mission Statement

The Readfield Cemetery Committee is to endeavors to preserve and maintain the integrity, character, beauty, and historical value of Readfield's cemeteries; and to monitor application of the Cemetery Rules to those ends. The Cemetery Committee will serve as an advisory board to the Select Board, the Town Manager, the Sexton and the Readfield community.

Thank you Pam!

Sexton's Update

- Grace and Karen met with an engineer (Helen Watts) about the stone walls that that need to be repaired at the Readfield Corner and Case cemeteries as recommended by the Select Board. Ms. Watts is preparing a report of the work needed and the approximate cost. The damage is caused by frost heaves over many years. She did indicate the cost to repair these walls was more than the \$10,000 set aside in the budget.

- Karen has not contacted Libby Doak to see if she is available to teach volunteers about stone cleaning.
- Libby Doak and Dale Potter-Clark are providing a lecture through Maranacook Adult Education called Early Religion and Preachers in Readfield on May 20th from 6:30 to 8:30.
- There have been two bids submitted to provide work on the Living Fence. Karen and Marianne will review them and make recommendations.
- The fence at the Dudley Plains Cemetery was damaged this winter. This fence was within the easement as are the first row of gravestones. The fence will be replaced for \$250.
- Applications are still being accepted for mowing. Interviewing will begin next week.

Reappointments:

Marianne Perry, Grace Keene, Loraine Wagner and Deb Doten are up for reappointment. Marianne and John have submitted their papers for reappointment. If they want continued involvement on the committee, these committee members must fill out an application for reappointment by 5/30.

Other:

Sandra Rourke asked “who here said that a committee member resigned because of me, and Lorraine Wagner”. Deb Doten said that she was not interested in “engaging in this dishonest discussion”. Sandra said “course you don’t want to talk about it” and that Deb “should not be heading up this committee”. Karen said that no one here said such a thing and that once again unnecessary negativity is being brought to the discussion. There was no further discussion on this matter.

Next Work Session:

May 11, 2015 at 9:00 am at the East Readfield Cemetery

Next Meeting:

June 8, 2015 at 9:30 at the Town Office

The meeting adjourned at 10:55.

Cemetery Clean Up!

Thank you to Brenda, Deb, Grace, John, Lydia, Marianne and Pam who volunteered to help the Sexton with cleanup of brush and trash following the meeting.

