

Cemetery Committee Meeting
September 27, 2016
October 17, 2016

Members Present: Karen Peterson, Pam Osborn, Deb Doten, Brenda Lake, Grace Keene

Members Absent: Marianne Perry (excused), Sandra Rourke (excused), Andy Tolman (excused), John Moran (excused)

Members of the Public: Ronda Luce

Staff: Anna Carll, Eric Dyer

Meeting came to order at 9:30 am in the Town Office.

The August 27, 2016 meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion made by Pam Osborn to accept the minutes with approved edits. Grace Keene seconded . 4 Approved. 1 Abstention.

There is one Cemetery Committee member who is only able to come on Mondays due to her work schedule. All agreed to go back to Monday meetings.

Sexton Update

The Maine Old Cemetery Association (MOCA) is offering educational workshops for stone cleaning and repair in 2017. The requirements of the workshop were reviewed and the Sexton will submit an application to hold a workshop at one of the Readfield cemeteries.

The Sexton attended two MOCA workshops on stone repair. With the purchase of appropriate equipment, staff and volunteers could be trained do certain types of stone repair and restoration restoration.

Volunteers and the Sexton have cleaned 46 stones at Kents Hill Cemetery and 6 stones at Readfield Corner Cemetery.

The Cemetery Tour/Readfield History Walk is schedule for October 15th. This tour is a collaborative event with the Union Meeting House, the Readfield History Walkers, and the Town of Readfield. During this tour, information around the Henry Prior Miller stones may be presented. Thank you to Brenda Lake for assuring that the information for this tour is publicized in the Kennebec Journal.

Staff have been repairing a road in the Readfield Corner Cemetery.

Staff have been clearing the brush away from the stone wall at the East Readfield Cemetery.

Tree work will be completed this fiscal year. Whittier Cemetery will be prioritized.

The Sexton is still exploring the repair of the East Readfield pump.

Town Manager Update

The Budget Committee's first meeting will be 11/3/2016.

The Chairs Meeting will be 11/28/2016 at 6:30.

All are reminded to complete the Age Friendly Committee's survey which is available the Town's web site.

A question was raised on the role of Advisory Committees and Boards and their involvement in the budget process. In response, the vision of the role of Advisory Committees is to offer recommendations and advice based upon their specific knowledge, expertise and purpose of the committee itself. Generally speaking, fiscal recommendations could include the cost and scope of work for specific projects as well as to prioritize their importance.

The Town Manager thanked the members of the Cemetery Committee for their volunteer efforts.

East Readfield Cemetery

Many thanks to volunteer Rhonda Luce who has removed the annuals from the berm as well as clearing away overgrown bushes and evasive plants.

More mulch will be needed next year.

Other Business

The Memorial Garden at the Readfield Corner Cemetery needs maintenance. There was additional discussion on what steps should be taken to complete the project. The Sexton will look at the pulling stones at the Fairgrounds to determine the feasibility of using them as benches and/or for other landscaping uses.

Next Meeting:

October 17, 2016 at 1:30 at the Town Office.