

Cemetery Committee Meeting Minutes November 15, 2017

Present: Grace Keene, Marianne Perry, Brenda Lake, Andy Tolman, Deb Doten, Pam Osborn, John Moran, Karen Peterson, Sandra Rourke
Staff Present: Anna Carll

There was a review of the October 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Cemetery Ordinance Update: The Select Board has voted to review the ordinance for consistency. The ordinance will then be brought to a Select Board meeting for approval to be placed on the warrant for the June 2018 Town Meeting. Many thanks to Andy Tolman for assuring a positive outcome on the ordinance.

Sexton's Report:

Progress is being made for the landscaping along the Route 17 side of the East Readfield Cemetery. This project is made possible from a generous donation made by the United Methodist Church's Fifield Trust. It was recommended that evergreens be included as landscaping plans are developed.

Fall clean up in the cemeteries has been nearly completed.

Stump removal of the recently cut maple trees at Dudley Plains was a recommendation that came forward during the Select Board October walk through of the cemeteries. The Sexton will explore options.

Thanks to Grace Keene for picking up the flags after Veteran's Day.

The Sexton is preparing an RFP scheduled tree work and will be in consultation with the Town's forester to assure best practice.

Thanks to Karen Peterson for exploring options and contractors for the broken water pump at East Readfield.

A large rock at the Readfield Corner Cemetery's garden has been relocated to the Town Office garden.

Veteran's Day Celebration:

The celebration that took place on Veteran's Day was fantastic and memorable! Hard working volunteers organized a history walk, Civil War reenactment, a ceremony with music at the Town Office monument, followed by a delicious meal. Outstanding!

Budget Discussion:

Stone Repair: The balance will be used to repair 2-3 stones and to purchase equipment for stone repair.
Trees/Brush: RFP will be going out soon. Balance will be expended.

The Contingency Fund: This line item is no longer used for stipends. The balance is now part of personnel expense.

Building O/M: Some of the balance will be used for mulching the berms at East Readfield this spring.

There is \$4000 that was earmarked for stone benches at the Readfield Corner Cemetery. A very generous anonymous donor contributed to the cost of the beautiful granite bench in Readfield Corner. This Committee agreed to prioritize use of this balance at the December meeting. Suggestions include plantings at the Readfield Corner Garden, signs at Kent's Hill indicating cemetery access only, and for repairs to the sign at the Dudley Plains Cemetery.

Cemetery Rules:

The draft to the Cemetery Rules revisions needs to be finalized by July 1, 2018. A subcommittee will draft rules for the entire committee to review and revise early in Spring, 2018. Grace Keene, Deb Doten, Brenda Lake, Marianne Perry and Anna Carll will serve on the subcommittee which will begin work in 1/2018. Date to be announced at the December Meeting.

Next Meeting:

1:00 pm at the Town Office on December 13, 2017
Bring a holiday snack if you desire!