

Minutes from 2/12/20 Cemetery Commission meeting
6:30 PM
Town Hall

Approved at the March 11, 2020 meeting.

Members present: Walter Tibbetts (WT), Janice Stone (JS)

Members absent: Raymond Cusson (RC)

Visitors: Mary Jo Maffei

1. Review & approve minutes of 12/11/19 meeting. One correction was needed, to reflect that it is Walter's year for re-election, not Ray's. WT made the motion, seconded by JS to approve the minutes with the correction. WT & JS voted in favor.
2. Gravestone Repair Project RFP. WT has been away for a month, so not ready yet. Will try to have draft ready for next meeting in March.
3. Veterans' Heritage Grant. JS announced that SHRAB has approved the grant application and will be sending the town paperwork to get it ready to go.
4. Cemetery Policies and signs. RC had sent the draft language to the Commissioners before the meeting. JS and WT discussed what should be on the signs, with input from Mary Jo. Some revisions were made. Janice will revise the text and send it out for one more review at the next meeting. Group also discussed getting a sign made for the Green Burial section, maybe made of wood. WT will check to see if J. Goodhind, who made other signs in town, might be willing to work on this.
5. Web site. There is a basic website up for the public. We need to add info, including cost of burial lots. Janice will write up a short description of each town cemetery with a photo or two for the webpage. Add more minutes and agendas. JS mentioned various items on Wendell's Cemetery Commission website regarding rules and care.
6. New price/lot sales. WT showed the revised form with updated lot prices. Discussion about perpetual care, and whether a statement at the bottom of the order form should be added, stating that the signer accepts perpetual care on the lot, but the Commission is not required to do any, but may if necessary. This might cover the Commission to do cleaning and restoration work on gravestones without having to track down present owners (to avoid the problem Quabbin Park has). Commissioners was asked how many green burial lots there are (144.)
7. Status of West Cemetery survey work. Surveyor is still working on it.
8. Repairs to door of old crypt. WT needs to get back in touch with Williamsburg blacksmith, since he promised he would be back to complete the work and has not.
9. Next Meeting Date. Commission agreed on Wed. March 11 at 6:30 PM.
10. Adjournment at 7:40 PM. WT made the motion, seconded by JS. All in favor.

Submitted by

Janice Stone