

Minutes of 4/20/2023 Cemetery Commission

6:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting with Zoom

(Under Emergency Order for Pandemic)

Approved at the Meeting of 7.26.23

Members present: Walter Tibbetts (WT), Dina Stander (DS), Susan Millinger (SM). Meeting called to order at 6:07 p.m.

1) Minutes of the January 7, 2023 meeting: **Motion to accept the Minutes of January 7 was made and seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved by a roll call vote.**

2) Minutes of November 11, 2022: are to be sent out again for corrections.

3) New burials and lot sales: No new burials to report, but a lot was sold at the Locks Pond Road Cemetery to a long-time resident. - There was an inquiry about burial in the green/natural area from a person who had earlier lived in Shutesbury. The Commission members agreed that this was an acceptable connection; WT will let the requestor know he may buy a plot there.

-DS has been talking with a Town resident about burial here as part of an on-going conversation.

4) CPA Grant Application: The chair of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) let us know that the CPC has approved our grant application. The next and final step will come at the June 3 Town Meeting, which will vote on CPA grants.

5) Website issues: a. DS will bring all the information she has collected for the website, which she plans to give to Gail Fleischaker of the Web Communication Committee to enter.

b. SM will look through the minutes to find the texts of further additions to Cemetery Regulations also to be given to Fleischaker.

6) Discussion of acquisition of a small external hard drive to keep in the Cemetery Commission's drawer in the Committee Room with up-to-date burial records and other documents. **Motion that WT buy a small external hard drive; the largest that does not require an external power source. Motion seconded and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.**

7) Cemetery Documents: Leslie Bracebridge recently discovered a deed transferring the Pratt Corner Road Cemetery to the Town. A hard copy will go into the Commission file drawer.

8) Request about a stone for a green/natural burial: Sally Fairfield was told that the stone she bought for a grave in the green/natural area needed a bluestone slab underneath it. Commission members had a number of questions about this, including the exact location planned for the stone and its size. WT will meet with her personally to figure it all out.

9) Need for a note on our website: asking those who have questions and concerns about burials, gravestones, etc., to come to our regular monthly public meetings so we can answer their questions in as a timely a way as we can, and ask our own questions to get clarity about their needs and desires.

10) Zoom issues: Given the limitations of the Town options for meetings, the Commission discussed the advisability of paying for our own Zoom subscription. **Motion that WT ask the Town Administrator if the Cemetery Commission could use its own money to buy its own Zoom account. Moved, seconded and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.**

7) Date for next meeting: Wednesday, May 17, at 6 p.m.

8) Adjournment at 6:38. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously carried.

Submitted by *Susan Millinger*
Cemetery Commission secretary

