Hooksett Cemetery Commission
June 11, 2020 7:30 AM
Meeting remotely via Zoom

In attendance: Mike Horne, chair; Sharron Champaign; Denise Cascio Bolduc

Missing: Nancy Philbrick

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 a.m.

Minutes were reviewed and approved for May 28, 2020.

Public input
(via email) Kathy Northrop noted misspelling of the plant listed on line 55. It was listed as jauca. Correction: ajuga

Record keeping:
Sale of cemetery lots: Cemetery Lots
(Townsend) Graham Martins 810, 812

Interments: None

Headstones/monuments: None

Budget:
Current Budget (2019/2020):
Funded $641 Expended to Date: $450 Uncommitted: $41

The board approved Mike purchasing some wooden stakes with the remaining uncommitted funds.

Old Business:
Martins Lot 25 and subdivision to Lots 25B, 25C (Lamos, Ballargeon): Susan Gabert called Mike again. She started the request in 2011 and has provided Mike records. We will continue to make progress. Should Mike approach 25D (Harrington) to see if they’d be willing to move that urn grave one space and then we’d give them equivalent grave space to the west up to the stone wall area? Became an issue when the urn was placed for Harrington. Then Susan and niece sent the 3/18 communication. Mike will communicate with Susan and town administrator. Mike created an outline of events in a Word doc entitled “Timeline Regarding Martins Plot – Lot 25C.”

Request to put a bench in Head, Sec A (new): Mike will follow up by drafting a letter to them with a picture of where we propose the bench should be.

Mike is working on the CY21/22 budget submission to the Town. Items include CemeteryFind and repair of the headstones/monuments. Work in progress.

CY19/20 Annual Report submission: Sharron is tasked with this.

Selecting graves to be cremains lots in Martins and Head cemeteries: Will meet in the cemeteries to finalize locations for selection-Thursday, June 18 @ 6:30 pm in Martins, to be followed by a visit to Heads Cemetery to do the same.
Ground cover in cemeteries (status of test areas): Nancy planted the ajuga in Martins ($67) - clover seed was planted in Martins and will be done in Head as well.

Cemetery trustee position: 1 interested party. Wants to know more about the position. Sharron’s term is up in June and Denise’s one-year appointment will also be up in June. Sharron will stay on if the interested party does not come to fruition.

New Business:
- Green burials: Different levels of “green” (could eliminate vault or biodegradable caskets). Discussion ensued. We will research this. Mike, via NH Cemetery Association, will find some people to speak to regarding this (Tamworth, Dunbarton, Jaffrey, and Wilton). Perhaps set up a Zoom meeting with these people.

- Condition of some graves in Head are in poor condition with regards to soil. Mike will address this with Phil.

To-Do List:
- Meet with Phil to determine how to get work done for $2,500 (loam, paving, etc.): Some money was spent for stumps, but approximately $2,000 is still left over. There is a stockpile of loam the town has. They were reminded to keep up with putting loam after burials. It was suggested that we all meet when we can walk the grounds and review areas that need to be loamed as well as trimming/removing shrubbery, etc. We will address this at our site meeting on 6/18 at the cemeteries.
- Update perpetual care list (low priority-start with actual records)
- Establish cremains lots – have this done before we published new rates/regs. Current lots are 3 ½ x 12. Our thought is to create cremains lots in each cemetery (Head and Martins only).
- Update regulations (including changing language of right to inter, etc.), Review cost of lots
- Have another work session in Head Cemetery, Sec A (new)
- Continue to update Cemetery Commission SOP

Next meeting(s): Thursday, June 25 at 7:30 a.m.
Meeting adjourned at 8:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Cascio Bolduc

Please see subsequent meeting minutes for any amendments to these minutes