

FINAL Minutes of the Cemetery Trustees

Location of Meeting: Boscawen Municipal Facility
 116 North Main Street
 Boscawen, N.H. 03303

Present at Meeting: Rhoda Hardy, Cemetery Trustee Chair
 Beverly Lacoy, Cemetery Trustee
 Lauren Hargrave, Cemetery Trustee Secretary
 Dean Hollins, Sexton
 Katie Phelps, Town Administrator
 Kate Merrill, Finance Director
 Tama Tillman, Representing Trustee of the Trust Fund

The regular meeting of the Cemetery Trustees was called to order at the Boscawen Municipal Facility, 116 North Main Street, Boscawen, N.H. on January 18, 2023, at 9:02 a.m.

Approval of minutes from last meeting:

Rhoda Hardy made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 28, 2022. Seconded by Lauren Hargrave. Passed Unanimously.

Old Business:

1. None discussed.

New Business:

1. Letter from Mya Balch: Rhoda Hardy read a letter received from Mya Balch, a senior at MVHS who is seeking permission to work at Maple Grove Cemetery in Boscawen. She would like to clean the headstones, rake, and snow blow if needed. She is seeking the approval from the Cemetery Trustees to complete her senior project. Discussion took place regarding this request. Beverly Lacoy noted that owners, i.e., descendants, should approach to see if they want the headstone which belongs to the family cleaned. Rhoda Hardy noted that there are few people alive who are direct relatives from which to request permission. However, the Cemetery Trustees will try to locate any descendants of those interred. Dean Hollins noted that if she is allowed to clean headstones the only thing for her to

use is ivory dish detergent and a nylon brush, no chemicals should be used. Although there are chemical cleaning products available it was noted that the products are costly for a senior in high school and she would have to be knowledgeable about what each stone is made of, i.e. granite, limestone, etc. Rhoda Hardy suggested meeting with Mya for discussion. *Lauren Hargrave made a motion to meet with Mya Balch to discuss the request prior to the next Cemetery Trustee meeting. Seconded by Beverly Lacoy. Passed Unanimously.*

2. Whitcher Family Request: Dean Hollins was contacted by the family of Donald Whitcher. Donald and his wife have both passed away and they own lot #135 in Pine Grove Cemetery. A disinterment of their infant baby was done. They would like to sell the lot back. The person in charge of the estate is requested to email the Sexton with the request. According to the deed the plot in question was purchased for \$25. Tama Tillman reported no one with the name Whitcher has paid for perpetual care. A family meeting will be held prior to any decision. *Lauren Hargrave made a motion to accept the request, refund \$25, if the executor/executrix gives approval. Seconded by Beverly Lacoy. Passed Unanimously.* A brief discussion was held regarding reimbursement of plots sold back to the town.
3. Tama Tillman, representing the Trustees of the Trust Fund, reported Polly Dawson and her attended a seminar regarding the Trustees of the Trust Fund reporting of the MS-9 and MS-10. Currently the funds held by the Trustees of the Trust Fund hold the monies for the Cemetery Trustees which is considered perpetual care and the funds are not allowed to be spent unless the actual expense is designated for only the plot in question. Therefore, the money is not being utilized. It was suggested that a Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust be established which would allow perpetual care payments to go into the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust. Therefore, two warrant articles, which basically requests the town people to vote for a Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust be put into place in place of the current perpetual care monies. Tama Tillman expressed the Trustees of the Trust Fund would like to send the warrants to the town this year but would like the Cemetery Trustees input. Further, it was reported the Trustees of the Trust Fund have representatives from Three Bearings Fiduciary Advisors attending their meeting tonight to answer any questions regarding the possibility of converting the existing Perpetual Care Trust into a Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust to allow utilization of the Perpetual Care Trust monies. There are currently 275 active Perpetual Care Trusts, with the initial investment by the trust being \$57,967 with accrued income up to December 31, 2022, of \$8,010.80. Questions and discussion took place. In conclusion the Trustees of the Trust Fund are looking to 1. Correct the fact that there was never a vote taken. 2. To propose

a 2023 warrant article which would establish a Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust. and 3. To propose a 2023 warrant article which would have the town agree to have the Trustees of the Trust Fund look into converting the current monies in the Perpetual Care Trust into the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust. *Beverly Lacoy made a motion was adopt RSA 289:2-a, to allow the sale of cemetery lots to be deposited into the General Fund and perpetual care fees be held by the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Seconded by Rhoda Hardy. Passed Unanimously. Rhoda Hardy made a motion to adopt RSA 31:19-a requesting the town to vote to establish a Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund which would allow all future perpetual care funds collected to be used for maintenance of the cemeteries. Seconded by Beverly Lacoy. Passed Unanimously.* Lastly, the third warrant, if possible, which the Trustees of the Trust fund will be discussing at their meeting tonight is to convert the existing Perpetual Care Trust into the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. *Rhoda Hardy made a motion that the Cemetery Trustees are in favor of, if at all possible, converting the existing Perpetual Care Trust into the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust. Seconded by Lauren Hargrave. Passed Unanimously.*

Other Business:

1. None discussed.

Meeting Closed: *Beverly Lacoy made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Rhoda Hardy. Passed Unanimously.* Meeting closed at 9:47a.m.

Next Meeting: The Next Regular Meeting of the Cemetery Trustees will be held at the Boscawen Municipal Facility, 116 North Main, Boscawen, N.H. on, Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Lauren Hargrave, Cemetery Trustee Secretary 1/19/2023.