

Cemetery Commission of Francestown Minutes of November 8, 2023 Meeting

Present: Polly Freese, Bridget Howell, Ethel MacStubbs (Trustees)
Janet Taft (Alternate)
Jamie Pike (for discussion of budget and building and grounds CIP estimate)

Meeting Called to Order at 9:15 a.m.

Motion to approve minutes of meeting of October 12, 2023 by Polly and seconded by Ethel. Motion approved.

- Larry Kullgren met with board members at end of October, 2023 at Cemetery 3 for inspection/assessment of shed. He filled out and gave to Commission "Building Data Collection Form" which summarized condition of building. Form was delivered to Jamie at this (Nov 8) meeting.
- On 11.7.2023 the Planning Board held the Capital Improvement Plan for 2024 (CIP meeting). Cemetery Commission had previously asked Jamie to submit an estimated figure of \$10,000 for replacement and/or rehab of shed at back of Cemetery 3. Larry K. attended and spoke on behalf of Commission re: shed.
- Larry K. in early November submitted to Polly written alternate estimates rehab (\$ 8,500) vs new construction of shed (\$12,500). Note: shed project will have to be bid out since cost will be over \$5,000.
- Motion by Ethel to proceed to get approval of new shed construction versus rehab. Polly seconds motion. Discussion. Janet favors rehab and trustees favor new construction. Motion to choose "new construction" versus rehab passed unanimously by trustees.
- Other comments: we need 3 "bays" for trash, etc. New building should be in keeping with appropriate current "colonial" architecture. New building would be smaller- allowing better ingress and egress on gravel road for cars turning the corner at that end of Cemetery. Current thoughts are to ask in Town Meeting for \$10,000 from town Capital Reserves and any overage take from Cemetery Maintenance Trust Fund.
- Polly reports water shut off and pipes drained in Cemetery 3. Bill for \$175 from Miller Brothers was submitted and paid. Allocated to line item 05 from our 2023 budget.
- New lot sales. Dr. Paul Janes would like to postpone search for lot to buy. Bridget will call Houstons for dates for tour of lots for sale.
- Discussion on Green Burial project and subcommittee, which needs to be formed. Agreed we will have meeting on Dec 5 just on Green Burial. Bridget will:
 - write up text by Nov 14 and circulate to trustees and alternates to put on posters, in Francestown News (deadline Nov 20) and on town website-
 - Collect from trustees names and telephone numbers of interested parties so we can set up calling lists.

- Tech subcommittee. Bridget would like to be on it. Thoughts are Meg and Janet, hopefully. Need to look at mapping tech and finding graves tech.
 - Costs: Janet found man who would charge \$4000 for surveying for graves and additional \$2500 for interpreting data. Seems too expensive.
 - Bridget will look for email from Janet on town in NH.
 - Ideas: talk to small towns about tech services. Bridget and Janet will split up list of places we got from Wilton trustee and call them. Companies listed on Oct 17 email.
 - Peters- letter went out, no response so far.
 - Next meeting dates proposed: Thursday, November 30 at 10:00, Wednesday, November 29 at 9. Bridget will ask Meg her availability for these and Green Burial meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.