

**Cemetery Commission of Francestown
Minutes of Meeting – May 22, 2023 (FINAL)**

Present: Polly Freese, Ethel MacStubbs and Bridget Howell
Additional attendees: Meghan Hardwick , Janet Taft
and Jamie Pike on FEMA question

Meeting commenced at 10:00 a.m.

Meghan and Janet (each have expressed interest in being alternate trustees on the Cemetery Commission) were welcomed. Ethel gives them general introduction to what we do. List of duties passed out.

Motion to approve minutes from meeting of April 20, 2023 passed.

Report by Polly:

- Miller Brothers plumbing has turned on water in cemetery No. 3. It was \$210 charge and they have been paid. Additional expense due to leaky faucet. For budget purposes, allotted to 4195 -05 (cemetery repairs).
- Ortwin Krueger purchased 2 lots in South Section (Row D, E, lot numbers 5, 6) on May 15, 2023. His late wife, Patricia Krueger, had died on February 20, 2023 was buried on May 15, 2023.
- Polly has retained Kris Stewart (Francestown Sand and Gravel) about additional work to create additional passageway in stone wall for pedestrians (especially for winter access) which idea was previously approved by Commission. He will do it before winter.

Other business:

- Discussion of lots purchased by Thomas Peters in 2008. Annette Peters has recently agreed to accept lots North Section Row N, Lots 11, 12, 13 and 14 for burial of Thomas and future burials. New deed to Annette Peters has been drafted. The Peters' issue is on agenda of Select Board for May22, 2023. Bridget will attend on behalf of the Cemetery Commission. Bridget will ask, per usual protocol, the Select Board to approve the new deed and will give newly executed deed to Mrs. Peters.
- We have a Cemetery Commission rule banning artificial flowers and rule is "honored in the breach" i.e. not enforced. Trustees agree the rule needs to be changed to allow artificial flowers with restrictions (eg they must be removed after a certain time or they will be picked up and either disposed of or kept in bin). Bridget will draft rule change for discussion at next meeting.
- Deed – suggested we change language to "right to inter". Bridget will draft new document for discussion at next meeting.
- Discussion of schedule of costs. Bridget asked and town did post schedule. Fees did not change -but corner marker language revised.

- Gill request for deed- deferred to next meeting since no urgency in matter. Ethel will follow up with family.
- Jamie, town administrator, came in to meeting and said FEMA will not get back to us for a few months on tree damage reimbursement.
- Signs for trash location were made by Ethel's son in law and will be put up.
- Additional no parking on grass signs needed. Ethel will look into that.
- Jane family. Our sexton confirmed that the lot originally designated for Jane family will not work. The deed for the unworkable lot (previously 221A, D P Alexander on our spreadsheet) was never executed. Ethel will meet with them to pick out another lot.
- Baptiste. Deed for site 382A has been executed. Graveside service, open to public, scheduled for June 17, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.
- Leavitt. Lot 380 (previously purchased) has been staked out with our Sexton for cremains burials for Lois Leavitt and Richard Leavitt (dob 11/29/1930 and date of death 5/31/2018), with approval of son, Brian Leavitt. As of now, burials scheduled for August 26th at 11:00 a.m.
- MEGHAN AND JANET AGREE TO COME ON AS ALTERNATE TRUSTEES! They each explained they have time constraints and Trustees agreed they will work with Meghan and Janet and their schedules and understand their constraints. Names were given to Town Administrator to give names to Select Board for approval at their May 22, 2023 meeting.
- Ethel will get hold of Deb Adams on issue of memorial for Lois Mac Adam.
- Motion to subscribe to Old Graveyard News unanimously passed.
- Poor Farm burial site memorial: Ethel will check back with Bev Abbott.
- Presentation on Green Burials is on June 14, 2023 at Town Offices at 6:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned 12:30 pm.