

**Cemetery Commission-Town of Frankestown**  
**Minutes of Meeting of July 6, 2020**

Present: Board Members Polly Freese, Ethel Mac Stubbs and Bridget Howell  
Meeting called to order at 11:05 a.m.

Minutes of June 12, 2020 reviewed. Minutes approved unanimously, subject to changing typos in paragraph numbers. Budget distributed for 2020 budget for Cemetery Commission. Agreed we are within budget so far.

Old Business.

1) Revision of Cemetery Covid policy.

Governor and CDC have now eliminated advisory on restricting groups to 9 persons or less, so we need to revise our policy accordingly. Polly and Bridget reported on research they did as to other cemeteries. Bridget submitted draft of revised policy she drafted. After discussion, motion by Ethel to adopt proposed COVID revised policy, subject to a numbering typo and minor word revision. All agreed, motion passed. Bridget will submit policy to Town Administrator to post on-line, in post office and at Library kiosk. (see Attachment A).

2) Revision of Cemetery Rules.

Bridget was going to draft some language for Trustees to discuss, but could not do that yet. Question discussed as to whether the Trustees would allow any night gatherings, in contradiction of current "dawn to dusk" policy, but on a "by request only" basis at discretion of Trustees. We discuss cultural issues presented. Polly points out liability issue because, there is no lighting at night so there is potential for tripping and danger to persons and property. We discussed getting legal opinion, or waiver of liability and need for insurance company to weigh in. Town Administrator joins discussion and he will talk to insurance Town insurance company rep.

3) Jones Family Memorial.

Ethel relayed to family Trustees' decision on memorial bench (see June 12 minutes), but no further word from family on that or memorial plans.

4) Cemetery maintenance.

Polly, at request of Trustees, has invited Derek Byrant of Bryant Landscaping to meeting, since at last meeting we talked about complaints and Trustees agreed landscaping improvements sorely needed to improve parched, burned out and sparse vegetation areas and ant infestation (North section). Before Derek arrives, Ethel reports she talked to Christina Wohle.

Christina has worked to improve grounds in to part of the North section. Christina has recommended some products for Commission to use that she has used (and she can obtain through her company) and is willing to water north section. Ethel asks whether we should measure north section get estimate on recommended products. No decision is made on this, as Trustees are waiting to talk to Derek Bryan of Bryant Landscaping.

Derek Bryant arrives and agrees we need work in certain spots in the entire cemetery (except ants, which appear to be only in North section). He suggests hydro seeding, but this would be an extra expense not covered currently under his current contract. Due to rain patterns, not recommended to do it till Fall. He is not licensed to address ant problem.

Per request of Trustees, Derek will give us a proposal on hydro seeding North section **AND** the bare areas in other sections. He will do this by square footage. Discussion of other issues ensued, (eg watering sources) but no decisions made.

Meeting ends 1:15 p.m.

## ATTACHMENT A

### CEMETERY COMMISSION FOR THE TOWN OF FRANCESTOWN

Updated COVID-19 Policy – effective July 6, 2020

- 1) Governor Sununu has rescinded his prior order which contained an advisory limiting the number of people who gather in groups to 9 or less. Therefore, the Trustees of the Cemetery Commission are lifting the restriction on the number of guests and others attending memorials, funeral services and/or other gatherings in the cemeteries of Francestown, subject to the following recommendations and guidelines.
- 2) We strongly recommend that those in groups follow the guidelines established by the CDC and COVID-19 orders issued by Governor Sununu. Links to these are found on the Town website.
- 3) Therefore the Trustees recommend those gathering in groups in the cemeteries (including, but not limited to, guests, funeral directors, and pall bearers) wear masks or other face coverings whenever possible and practical.
- 4) We also strongly recommend social distancing (standing at least 6 feet apart) for persons in the cemeteries, whenever possible and practical.
- 5) Military Honors are allowed in accordance with the rules of the respective branches.

