



Town of Ware
Cemetery Commission
99 Pleasant Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
CEMETERY COMMISSION
MONDAY, March 22, 2021**

Location: Small Conference Room – Town Hall
Present: Craig Simmons, Roy Erickson, John Plechota
Excused: Julie Bullock

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm

Minutes

ERICKSON: Motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting as written

SIMMONS: Second
All were in favor

Finances

Doing well. No issues.

Part Time Employee

Three applications have been submitted. Craig, Roy and Stuart will do the interviews and set up a schedule of 15 minutes for each applicant.

SIMMONS: Motion to appropriate \$3,000 from the Reed Fund to pay the part time employee.

ERICKSON: Second
All were in favor.

Schrab Grant

The Historical Society/Commission will be dropping off a letter in support of the grant which is part of the grant process. It is necessary to certify that the money is available from Cemetery funds.

SIMMONS: Motion to allocate \$600 from the Perpetual Care Account to match the funds provided by the Schrab Grant.

ERICKSON: Second
All were in favor

Updates from John Piechota

John reported that most of the trees have been taken down in Section O except for the big oak. A lot of brush has been removed. It was a big project with 24 trees removed.

John will work on replacing new free trees with the East Quabbin Land Trust.

There was a discussion regarding the responsibility of the tree warden, who can advise, but not state where the new trees can be placed.

There is a tremendous problem with drug paraphernalia, dirty diapers, trash, beer cans, etc. being dumped in the cemetery. More police presence is needed. Dog walking continues and signs are not been paid attention to.

There are few more pieces of equipment in the Barn.

The Electric Service is beginning pulled from the pole. The office side of the building needs to be addressed by National grid. John will talk to Gibby at the DPW.

There is no update on cleaning of the building regarding any contaminants, i.e. asbestos.

Stuart is working on the budget for internet service and money needed for the extra work on Section O.

The cemetery roads need to be addressed. They have not been worked on since the 1970s. There are many cracks and bumps which are taking a beating to the Kubota. Stuart advised to work with the DPW to get a quote on shimming the roads. Then see how to fund it or ask if it could be done in-house.

Section O Rules

There was a discussion of how to sell lots in Section O. Some issues were:

- Single lots on the side.

- How and where to place stones (8 graves, 8 markers?)

- Uniformity of plots.

- Divide Section in quadrants and start burials in back first and work to front

Rules and Regulations

Craig read and reviewed the current rules and regulations and added some additional wording. There was discussion of rule enforcement, contractor safety, sand blasting safety and no one should be working in the cemetery alone.

There being no further business, Roy Erickson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:35.

The next meeting will be on April 26, 2021

Recorder
Nancy Dunn

Approved:

Craig Simmons _____

Julie Bullock _____

Roy Erickson _____

