

Calais Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2017

Town Hall

Present: John Simanskas, Fletcher Dean, Jennifer Whitman, Juanita Nunn, Randy Koch

Guest: Sexton Wyatt Healey

John called the meeting to order at 7:05.

Minutes of the August 30 Commissioners' meeting were reviewed and amended to correct the Aug. 22 Endowment balance which was actually \$137,911.21. Approved.

Sexton's Report: Wyatt reported that mowing had been very light recently with the warm, dry weather. He took down the deteriorating fences from Janes Cemetery, leaving the fence posts. Replacement granite posts and chain fencing is scheduled for FY 2018/19.

2017/18 Budget: Commissioners reviewed current budget expenses and discussed discrepancies that often arise at our meetings, leaving unanswered questions. Treasurer Donna Fitch had been invited to help explain the budget entries but was again unable to attend. Fletcher will invite her to the Oct. 25th meeting.

Projects: John reported that VT Expert Tree Service has postponed the trimming of hedges on one side of Fairview Cemeteries to October.

Janes Cemetery: In response to a recent citizen's complaint about the condition of the fencing and upkeep at Janes, Jennifer spoke at length with the person whose spouse is buried there, and explained that Janes is indeed on our schedule for restoration. It was decided that in the future, Jennifer as "Cemetery Ambassador" will handle inquiries and address concerns people may have regarding the condition of our cemeteries. Where appropriate, she will refer the callers to John.

Old Fairview Cemetery: Commissioners reviewed three bids for cleaning and repairing the headstones. Some were for cleaning only. Randy will call Anair for more information on his cleaning technique and materials used, as well as ask to see his work. If satisfied, Randy will recommend accepting the bid.

Cemetery Mapping: Jennifer has been unsuccessful in reaching the Director of Mt. Auburn Cemetery for advice on procuring mapping software, with the goal of updating and standardizing maps of all Calais cemeteries.

Endowment: No current balance was available. Fletcher reported that Trustee Rod Buck had emailed that although H.5. was passed into law, last minute language had limited some types of investments. Fletcher will follow up with Rod after their next meeting for clarification.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35.

Cemetery Commission meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month in summer and bi-monthly thereafter.

Next meeting October 25, 2017

7 PM

Town Clerk's Office

Respectfully submitted,

Fletcher Dean

October 4, 2017