

Calais Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2019

Town Office

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

Guest: Joe Mangan - Kirkyard Services

John called the meeting to order at 7:10.

Minutes of the Aril 24, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Sexton's Report: Jennifer has been working with the town clerk and treasurer to set up bookkeeping. Commissioners met recently with the Select Board. Discussion followed about New Fairview cemetery. Fletcher and Juanita walked through the cemetery and recorded all the missing grave information they could find on the most recent map and on index cards. Many corner markers are missing, buried or not installed. Joe would like to see more of them for greater accuracy. Discussion followed about Sunrise Survey's estimate of a whole cemetery mapping and placement of corner markers. Randy made a motion to have Jennifer ask Select Board if they can financially support this unplanned but necessary expense. John 2nd. Approved. Joe has mowed all cemeteries and will mow Poplar Hill before Memorial Day. Flags have been placed. He gave an update on planned burials.

Rules and Regulations: Jennifer had edited and updated the June 2011 version as a draft. Juanita will re-type with changes. Joe asked to have a plot and price handout for customers which includes 2 cremations and 1 full burial, or four cremations in a single lot. Jennifer and Joe will work on descriptions of all types of burials and a new price list. Joe had a question about liability for green burials. Jennifer recommended that we create a protocol checklist for families to prepare for green burials (enough people, shroud details, strapping, lowering technique). Green burials do not require a lowering device but vaultless burials do.

Poplar Hill Cemetery: Commissioners discussed the unresolved ownership situation since the PHC Assn. voted to dissolve. Cemetery Commission will pay Joe to mow for now. Fletcher will contact Denise Wheeler to see when a meeting with the Calais Select Board, Cemetery Commission, Town Attorney and the P H Assn. members will happen to determine process for new ownership of the cemetery.

Old West Church Cemetery: Jennifer had been contacted by the OWC Assn. asking for costs to maintain the wooden fence. They recommend getting grants. Fletcher and John will work together on the application to the Design Review Board for replacing three sides with granite posts and chain in line with our long-term goals of reducing costly maintenance and repair to all town cemeteries' wooden fences.

Treasurer's Report: Commissioners reviewed the report. Endowment stands at \$148, 111.16.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10.

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

Next meeting June 26, 2019 - 7 PM

Town Office

Respectfully submitted,

Fletcher Dean, May 28, 2019