

Town of Calais Cemetery Commission

Calais Town Hall

10/25/2023

Members present: Juanita Nunn; Sage Kennedy; Laura Dailey; Michael Fullerton

Public: Joe Magnon – Sexton; Rodney Buck – Endowment information

Additions to agenda – Minutes are not on website, need to forward to webmaster when done. Juanita recapped selectboard meeting she attended to answer questions about the commission and how things work.

Called meeting to order at 6:12 PM

Approve minutes from 9/27/2023 meeting - Not completed in time for this meeting.

Sextons Report – Old West Church fence has the new rails up and the posts in the ground for the gate. Gate is being worked on off-site and will be installed when completed.

Joe has a full burial coming up at Fairview and may need to pump some water first. They also cleaned the stones at Poplar Hill. He had the hooks made for Ainsworth to replace some of the broken old ones. He plans to close the cemeteries for the season before snow. Joe also got the flag flying again at Jane's Cemetery and Peter Dailey will paint it once weather and time permits.

There were 4 green burials sites sold, and it looks as though there are about 24 left for sale. Discussed dividing some of the large sites into smaller plots potentially. We also discussed that if you own a site and its physically possible, it can also be a green burial. There was discussion of adjacent space that could be available, some by Ainsworth and some by Robinson.

We discussed the mowing contract for next year and Joe is going to get it situated for the next meeting. We also can request that the account for Poplar Hill "Bliss Section" be removed as we will no longer be doing that, from the treasurer.

We plan to repair/replace fence at Ainsworth next year and will need volunteers for painting Robinson & Old West Church once the wood is weathered enough. Michael did some repairs to make the fence look ok until we can fix it completely.

Endowment Overview – Rodney Buck came and explained the history of he and others work on setting up the endowment for the cemetery commission. He referred to the town report for further detail about the history and function of it. He advised that 4% is about the average we can expect but it can fluctuate year to year. This year that would be area of \$9000. He explained that we do our budget, then subtract what we would draw from the endowment to reduce the amount that the taxpayers would be asked for at town meeting.

FY2025 Budget – Discussed details of what the prior year budgets looked like, and how the money comes in and goes out, and is accounted for. Juanita answered what she could for questions, and the commission agreed to request more detail from the treasurer and reconvene in November for a follow-up session of budgeting.

Motion to Adjourn – Sage made a motion to adjourn at 8:1 p.m. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting will be at: 11/15/2023 at the Calais Town Hall

Signed _____

Signed _____

Signed _____

Signed _____

Signed _____

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