

## **Peacham Cemetery Preservation Committee Meeting Unapproved Minutes**

April 29, 2020

### **Present via phone or video**

Committee Members: Annette Lorraine, Bob Morgan, Becky Jensen

Public: Cheryl Stevenson (sexton), Ron Craig (sexton), Peter Craig

Annette Lorraine called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

**Additions to the agenda:** Approval of April 22, 2020 minutes and Cremation Area added by Annette.

**Mintues:** Becky moved to approve the minutes as presented with one correction. All agreed.

**Discussion of potential additional members:** Karen Lewis is interested in joining. Becky moved to suggest Karen to the Select Board. All agreed.

Annette indicated that Ellen Bartlett may also be interested and after approval of the remainder of the committee, Annette agreed to speak with Ellen.

After a discussion on the number of committee members needed, Bob moved to also suggest Ellen Bartlett to the Select Board if Annette's conversation is positive.

Annette will pass names on as appropriate.

**Burial Fees:** Annette presented the fees as proposed by Ron Craig:

- Plain urn - \$200
- Urn with vault - \$250
- Full burial - \$600
- Extra services such as chairs and tent can be provided by Ron at an additional cost
- Vault and monument costs are separate fees through the funeral or monument provider(s)

Discussion ensued about fees and what is included, how fees are paid, and burial requirements concerning vaults and embalming.

The fee schedule will be passed on to the Select Board for approval and addition to the Lot Application form.

There was also discussion concerning whether the gravedigger should be paid by the town or directly by the family. Bob will arrange a meeting with the Town Clerk and the Auditors to discuss best practices. Becky to also attend.

**Review of Cemetery Map and Cremation Area:** Cheryl explained where she would like the proposed cremation to be – an area not suitable for full burials.

Discussion about different burial types, need for green burial options, possible option to split a normal 7' x 12' lot into two cremation lots, and a need for a more documented vision for the cemetery. Bob asked Cheryl about the number of lots left and their possible total "capacity".

The Committee stressed the need for Cheryl to wait on any work related to the cremation area.

Peter indicated that the Select Board had requested more information prior to proceeding.

Cheryl was asked to obtain a firm offer from Lisa Ginnett concerning surveying and bring that back to the committee.

The committee will tour the cemetery with Cheryl to gain a better understanding of the proposed cremation area and other areas that could be used for green burial or other purposes. A date will be set in the future.

**Green Burial:** Bob has reviewed several articles and would like to summarize them for us to make it easier for all to understand. There are currently no Green Burial areas in the NEK. The Committee, Cheryl and Ron would like to tour the Montpelier cemetery to have a better sense of what will be required in our cemetery. No date set.

**Budget:** No discussion. Numbers for typical costs and infrastructure costs are needed in order to prepare for next year's budget.

**Next meeting:** No date set.

Meeting adjourned at 5:26pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Jensen