

UNAPPROVED –
Peacham Cemetery Preservation Committee Emergency Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2020

Present via phone or video

Committee Members: Annette Lorraine, Bob Morgan, Karen Lewis, Becky Jensen
Public: Ron Craig, Beatrice Ring, Bruce Westcott

Becky Jensen called the meeting to order at 5:05pm EDT. Becky will take minutes.

Public comment:

Bruce Westcott expressed concerns about the lack of mowing in the cemetery and the need to have the cemetery look as nice as the rest of the town for Fall Foliage. Bruce offered assistance, both monetarily and physically to have the mowing done. Becky indicated that while the Committee can recommend to the Selectboard that mowing occur more often, we do not control or oversee the mowing. Beatrice will share Bruce's comments with the Selectboard. Ron indicated that they would mow before foliage season.

Additions to the agenda:

Executive session moved to earlier in the agenda to accommodate Annette's time commitments. No other changes to the agenda.

Minutes: Karen moved to accept the June 2, 2020 minutes; Bob seconded. All in favor.

Executive session:

Becky moved to go into Executive session for personnel at 5:15pm EDT. Exited Executive session at 5:28pm EDT.

Annette moved that we recommend to the Selectboard an hourly rate of \$18, not to exceed \$2500 or the amount remaining for Sexton pay, for Ron as the Sexton for the current season and that the Sexton submit timesheets with details of time spent and tasks accomplished on a regular basis. Karen seconded. All in favor.

Plot discrepancies:

Ron has recently uncovered more plots that have been sold twice. In one case the owner had already swapped to a different plot but the original deed had not been updated. In another case there is already a body in the plot that was recently sold. Ron will contact the second purchasers and diplomatically resolve the issue.

Karen asked that Ron continue to notify the Committee when he finds such discrepancies.

Karen and Bob will meet with Ron on Thursday at 3pm to discuss another issue with an unsurveyed plot.

Rotating chairman / meeting coordinator:

No one on the Committee wants to be the chief, therefore we agreed that each member would plan, warn, and lead meetings related to their areas of interest. Karen will take the lead on planning the future of the cemetery; Bob will lead on green burial; Becky will lead on data. Annette will fill in as appropriate.

For the present, the Committee felt that four members are currently sufficient to carry out the needed work.

Future Agenda Items:

Karen will meet with Dave Jacobs to discuss the plan he proposed several years ago. She will bring details back to the Committee.

Becky has received from Ron the previous deed spreadsheet and scanned deeds. This will be helpful in starting a database.

Please send your vision for Green Burial to Bob if you have not already.

No date was set for the next meeting.

Adjourned at 6:00pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted by
Becky Jensen