

## **MINUTES CEMETERY TRUSTEES – 9/19/17**

Present: Susan Weeks, Charlotte Allen

Meeting opened at 5:30 pm.

Draft Minutes from 9/11/17 were approved with spelling corrections. Charlotte will make the necessary corrections and submit to Karen.

Expenditures approved for payment: Roger Williams \$1802.50 for 51 ½ hours of mowing in 46 graveyards @ \$35 per hour.

Charlotte has contacted Elissa Paquette to have a photo taken of the old fencing at Thomas Cemetery, prior to the new fence installation, tentatively scheduled for the first or second week of October. Ms. Paquette will then take another photo, upon project completion. We will invite the donors, Mirror Lake Community Church, the Marriott Family Foundation and Winne Lumber, to join the Cemetery Trustees for a group photo in front of the cemetery improvement. Charlotte will write an article for the Granite State News and the Tuftonboro Association newsletter.

Charlotte created a draft Application for Right of Burial, which was modified by Susan, sent to Karen, and put on the Town website. We will use this until further notice.

After much discussion about the acceptance of the large, unsolicited donation to the Cemetery Trustees, we decided it was necessary to consult with Attorney Mark Puffer for his legal opinion. At issue is which RSA applies to this situation. Susan and Charlotte will meet and consult the Trustees of the Trust Funds for their perspective on this matter. Susan will draft a letter to Mr. Puffer for his legal opinion.

Susan will also request his opinion of the legality of having Mr. Williams continue to mow graveyards in town that have not been abandoned at this point.

The Sexton would be involved in any/all burials in any cemeteries that were declared 'abandoned' in the future by the Board of Selectmen.

Charlotte submitted, for informational purpose only, "Town Hall Cemetery Interments 2009-2017"; she compiled data from Heather's Death Notices Binder that initially indicates there is an annual average of 7.3 interments over the past 9 years. A copy was given to Karen for filing. Susan requested that further data be gathered from the Cemetery Trustees files, believing the average is higher. An Excel spreadsheet of all deaths/interments in Tuftonboro should be created and maintained. Charlotte will start this project.

Susan went on to say that we should do another Cemetery and Graveyards book, that there have been many changes since the original book, and that it has been very useful to us. While not a top priority, we will discuss this further soon.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Submitted by Charlotte Allen 9/21/17