

The Thornton Cemetery Trustees held a meeting at 5 pm, on Friday October 28, 2020, at the Sugar Shack, Route 175, Thornton, NH.

In attendance were Trustees: Peter Laufenberg, Geraldine Benton-Carbonneau and Superintendent of Cemeteries, Brad Benton. Absent Trustee Wendy Johnston.

A motion was made and accepted to read last meeting's minutes. The minutes were read by Geraldine and accepted by a unanimous vote.

Peter reported the cemetery budget to date (October 19, 2020) has approximately \$1500 and would be used for fall clean-up. The Trustees also discussed the ensuing year cemetery budget 2020-2021 with a slight increase in a couple of line items in the budget. Asked about the amount that should be included for removal of trees on the backside of Pine Grove Cemetery. Brad said he would meet with Floyd from Top Notch Tree Service to get a firm number for tree removal, so this figure could be included in the 2020-2021 budget. It was agreed Brad would meet with Floyd to review the backside of Pine Grove Cemetery for tree removal and report back Trustees, so the trustees would have a solid figure for submission of cemetery budget.

Geraldine reported the sale of cemetery lots in both Mad River and Pine Grove Cemeteries. Geraldine and Brad met with Barbara Tanner to look at and discuss 2 lots at Mad River Cemetery. (Cremation lot #140, and single burial lot K-4). Cindy Powers called Geraldine with concerns of the resting place of her mother in her grandparents' lot (Ignaziooski). Geraldine went to Pine Grove Cemetery met with Cindy spending several hours looking and discussing what could be done to help answer questions of doubt she might have in the placement of her mother's ashes. Geraldine had a call about "green burials" telling the caller she would take this to the Trustee Meeting to get some clarification. Peter made a motion, and all agreed that NO "green burials" in Thornton Cemeteries. Mike Gridley called Geraldine ask about the burial of his grandfather, Kenneth Gridley. Geraldine did report there is a head stone at Pine Grove with his name and birth date, but no death date. Neither Brad Benton nor Phyllis Holbrook (Retired Trustee) could recall any information about Kenneth Gridley. Geraldine did let Mike know to contact Thornton Town Office and perhaps the staff in the office could research reviewing some of the old records housed there.

Geraldine brought it to the Trustees attention she had a call from Richard Baker, Trustee of Trust Funds, reviewing the new process of depositing cemetery lot monies. Geraldine tested the email Richard provided to ensure the connection was correct. All emails are correct and in place for future communication.

It was mentioned the slow process of the burial certificates returning from the town clerk. Geraldine had spoken to Selectperson, Marianne Peabody, to express concerns the Trustees have with this issue. Marianne did mention there is a drop box for information coming into the town office after hours. Trustees drafted a formal letter which was sent to both the town clerk and select board reviewing the process for cemetery deeds.

No other business was discussed by the cemetery trustees.

The meeting adjourned at 5:48PM.