

Freetown Cemetery Commission
Minutes of the Thursday, June 5, 2014 Meeting
Town Hall, 3 North Main Street, Assonet, Mass.

Present: Adrienne Levesque and Mike McCue.

Absent: Keven Desmarais

Call to order: Mike McCue called the meeting to order at 1:12p.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 12th and April 8th were not available.

Superintendent's Report

The April and May reports were not available.

Appointment of Superintendent

This item was passed over in hopes of a full board at the next meeting.

Remove/Replace Maple Tree

Discussion was held regarding the maple tree at the rear of the north stone gate at the Assonet Burying Ground. This tree was recognized to be in an unhealthy state, showing much rot along the side up to the first limb, and had previously been recommended for removal. Consensus was that safety dictates the tree be removed before it breaks apart and causes harm or damage.

Discussion was next held on whether to replace the tree. Mr. McCue noted that although Mr. Desmarais was unable to be present at this meeting, he left word that he had reservations about the cost and wisdom of replacing the tree. It was noted that other trees lining the driveway were not replaced once removed because their former locations were no longer conducive to growth; what was once a tree-lined driveway alongside a farm was now a driveway mostly through woods with far less sunlight.

Mrs. Levesque asked the size of the replacement tree. Mr. McCue stated the tree was described as 2-2½ caliper, 15-20 feet tall, at a cost of approximately \$400. The higher prices was noted as resulting from the size of the tree. Mrs. Levesque asked where the tree would be purchased from. Mr. McCue responded it would be bought by Durfee Tree Service from a nursery, and that he believed the nursery was located in Westport. Mrs. Levesque stated she was comfortable paying more for a tree from a nursery. Mr. McCue noted that a portion of the cost for the tree could be paid for from perpetual care under the former Helen Vought Fund, which was rolled into general perpetual care around 1980.

On unanimous consensus, both removal and replacement were approved at the estimated price of between \$1200 and \$1400.

Next Meeting

No further meetings were scheduled, but it was noted another meeting would be necessary before June 30th.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting adjourned without vote at 1:32p.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: Michael T. McCue
Michael T. McCue, Chairman

349 East 49th St. N.Y.C.
November 28, 1963.

Mr. Russell King, Cemetery Supt.
Assonet Burying Ground,
Assonet, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. King:

I enclose the gift for the upkeep of the Assonet Burying Ground entrance, that I mentioned when I saw you last May. In giving it for upkeep I would like the \$1,000.⁰⁰ to be deposited, and the interest of this amount used each year, to maintain or improve the drive. I have in mind tree trimming, road repair, or such other needs.

It is a cemetery that I have known all my life, and both family and friends rest there.

I have always liked the way it has been kept, and I trust that Time will be kind to it.

It is a pleasure to contribute this to its upkeep.

Sincerely yours,
Helen Vought.

A true copy, Attest:

Walter H. Cudworth,
Town Clerk.

Recorded
April 26, 1966.