# **Freetown Cemetery Commission**

Minutes of the Wednesday, June 5, 2013 Meeting Town Hall, 3 North Main Street, Assonet, Mass.

**Present:** Keven Desmarais and Mike McCue.

**Absent:** Adrianne Levesque.

Call to order: Chairman Mike McCue called the meeting to order at 3:15p.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of April 22, 2013, were received. A motion was made by Mr. Desmarais, seconded by Mr. McCue, to approve the minutes as received. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Superintendent's Report**

The April and May reports were received.

# **Appoint Superintendent**

Mr. Desmarais asked if the superintendent had to be a one-year appointment. Mr. McCue stated there was no stipulation. He also noted that the superintendent did not need to be a commissioner. Mr. Desmarais suggested that in 2014 consideration be given to making the appointment either three or five years. A motion was then made by Mr. Desmarais, seconded by Mr. McCue, to reappoint Mr. McCue as superintendent until June 30, 2014. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Assonet Burying Ground**

Mr. McCue reported that he had visited Albanese Monuments to inquire about stone posts. He stated that he had reviewed several styles that were available, and ordered four 6x6 posts, eight feet long, for a total of \$880.00. It was expected that the posts would be delivered sometime in June.

Discussion was held on placing the flag pole somewhere in the vicinity of the veterans' section. It was agreed to do this, acknowledging that even if it was a temporary placement it would still be better than having the pole remain in storage.

Discussion was also held on the broken headstones discovered behind the shed. These stones are to be put back on their proper lots by Heath Chace the next time he is in Assonet with his Kubota. The stones were uncovered after trees and brush were removed from the area under Richie Brown's direction.

Mr. McCue also reported that students from Old Colony Regional Vocational-Technical High School in Rochester would be visiting the Assonet Burying Ground and the Richmond Cemetery to repair the iron fencing at both locations. It was expected that the Richmond Cemetery would be completed in June and the Assonet Burying Ground would be completed sometime during the 2013-2014 school year. Mr. Desmarais asked about cost and billing. Mr. McCue stated that the school does not charge for labor and that they would obtain the materials and then bill the Cemetery Commission for their cost. The teacher overseeing the project will be Doug Desrochers.

# **Edminster Cemetery & Guilford Evans Burial Ground**

These cemeteries were checked when the flag was placed prior to Memorial Day. There is no change in the condition of the Edminster Cemetery since 2012. The Guilford Evans Burial Ground showed signs that it was put back into proper shape in 2012, but was likely not being tended to in 2013. Mr. Desmarais will keep tabs on this cemetery.

#### **Plummer Burial Ground**

Members present acknowledged the excellent work of Heath Chace and Dennis DeMoranville in clearing out the debris from this cemetery. There have been numerous compliments from passersby and visitors to St. Bernard's Church, including Bishop Coleman of Fall River. Messrs. Chace and DeMoranville are expected to finish this project within the week, and will then submit a quote for clearing out the new spring growth prior to the Independence Day festivities.

### Financial Concerns - Morton Cemetery & Evans Cemetery

Mr. McCue noted that the Morton Cemetery perpetual care fund will be exhausted prior to the end of the calendar year. He has discussed the matter with Chuck Macomber, Highway Surveyor. If necessary, the Highway Department will add the Morton Cemetery to the properties it mows once this fund is spent. Mr. Desmarais questioned whether there was anyone who could make a donation. Mr. McCue noted the present owner is near to 90-years-old and lives out-of-state, and he was not in favor of asking someone in that situation to make a contribution. Mr. Desmarais concurred and asked if there were any other means to take care of it. Mr. McCue stated it could be floated in the budget, but that would take away money from other projects.

As for the Evans Cemetery, there is no immediate peril, but there will need to be an effort to reduce expenses and stretch this account out. At present, it may last another five years.

### **Next Meeting**

No further meetings were scheduled.

## **Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting adjourned without vote at 3:50p.

This is a True Decord by me

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Attest:	
	Michael T. McCue, Chairman