

**Freetown Cemetery Commission**  
Minutes of the Wednesday, April 14, 2021 Meeting  
Town Hall — Assonet, Mass.

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**Present:** Keven Desmarais, Adrienne Levesque, and Mike McCue.

2021 JUL 23 AM 9:09

**Absent:** None.

*Cheryl A. G. G. G.*

**Call to order:** Mike McCue called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**Receipt of Minutes**

The minutes of March 1st and March 31st were received, as was the Superintendent's Report for March.

**Sexton Vacancy**

Two applications were received to date, one from Tim Dacey and one from Owen Borges. Discussion was held on the two applications, including that Mr. Dacey had re-applied as he had tried to rescind his resignation but found that it was already recorded by the Town Clerk.

Mr. Desmarais was concerned about the prospect of rehiring Mr. Dacey as his reason for leaving was the inadequacy of the pay (minimum wage). He was concerned that Mr. Dacey would again leave if he were able to find better-paying employment or more hours elsewhere. Mrs. Levesque shared these concerns.

Mr. McCue noted that the by-laws give preference to residents when candidates appear equally qualified; Mr. Dacey resides in Dartmouth, Owen Borges in Assonet. Discussion shifted to the qualifications of the two applicants, with all aware of the good quality of Mr. Dacey's work in the past. Mr. Desmarais was aware of Owen Borges' work for others, and was confident that with some coaching on cemetery specifics his work would be of equal quality here.

Mr. McCue asked if the two candidates should be interviewed. Both Mr. Desmarais and Mrs. Levesque felt they did not need to interview Mr. Dacey as we had interviewed him in 2019 and were familiar with his work. Mr. Desmarais did not feel a need to interview Owen Borges as he was familiar with Owen's work. Mr. McCue agreed he did not himself need to interview Mr. Dacey for the same reasons.

All agreed Mr. Dacey's work had been excellent, and that had he left under different circumstances his re-application would have carried more weight. However, there loomed a great concern that we could be left without our sole employee should he leave again for the opportunity of better pay.

A motion was made by Mr. Desmarais, seconded by Mrs. Levesque, to recommend Owen Borges be appointed as Sexton. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Desmarais will contact Owen Borges, Mr. McCue will contact Mr. Dacey.

**Assonet Burying Ground**

Mr. Desmarais is still working with Cody Velozo on refurbishing the pole to be used as a new flag pole.

**Other Business Properly Before the Commission**

No items were taken up under this heading.

**Meeting Adjourned**

A motion was made by Mr. Desmarais, seconded by Mrs. Levesque, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

This is a True Record by me.

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