

Freetown Cemetery Commission
Minutes of the Monday, June 8, 2009 Meeting
Town Barn, 201 Chace Rd., East Freetown, Mass.

Present: Adrienne Levesque and Mike McCue.

Absent: Ralph Gurney.

Call to order: Chairman Mike McCue called the meeting to order at 7:15p.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of April 27th were received and read by Mr. McCue. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Levesque, seconded by Mr. McCue, the minutes were approved as read. The motion carried unanimously.

Assessors' Maps

It was noted that several of the larger abandoned cemeteries do not appear on the Assessors' maps. An inquiry made to Karen Mello found that these cemeteries could be added to the maps at a cost of \$12.00 per cemetery (the price set by their mapping company). Upon a motion made by Mrs. Levesque, seconded by Mr. McCue, it was voted to set aside \$120.00 this fiscal year to add up to ten cemeteries to the Assessors' maps if deemed appropriate. The motion carried unanimously.

Assonet Burying Ground

Mr. McCue reported that Rex Monuments had not followed through on their commitment to repair headstones in the Assonet Burying Ground, and that he had contacted three more companies to get estimates to try and move the project forward. On a related note, a letter was received from the family of Ephraim L. Peirce (d. 1937) stating that his headstone had been knocked over and broken, and that they would like this repaired at the expense of the perpetual care account. Since this stone is within the area designated for repairs, it was added to the list. If widespread repairs cannot be done, this letter will be revisited for a specific repair.

The mowing prior to Memorial Day was discussed, and both members present felt that the work was grossly unacceptable. It was noted that numerous complaints were fielded Memorial Day weekend, and that some areas of the property still have not been mowed (although this was also attributed to the recent rains). It was decided to hold off on any more discussion until Mr. Gurney could be present.

Mr. McCue reported that Chuck Macomber had opened the granite tomb around the first of May. The inside is in immaculate condition – no weather damage, almost spotless paint, no sign of insects, and no penetration from tree roots. He also reported that most town employees who had seen the inside had described it as so clean it was “eerie” or “creepy” to behold.

East Freetown Cemetery

Mr. McCue reported he spent the day with Dave Cass and Dave's daughter, Maggie, surveying this cemetery. Mr. Cass has produced a map showing the present condition of the cemetery and its natural and topographic features, and from this map a layout of lots can be made once a decision is made on how to lay them out.

There is one very low point in the southern quarter of the cemetery, one headstone along the southern fence, and a grove of cherry trees in the center. Cutting across the cemetery near the cherry trees and in about the same place that Ben Evans laid out a road in the 1950s is a dirt way leading from Hog Lane to the DeMoranville farm. Every attempt will be made to preserve that way for the neighbors to continue using.

Evans Cemetery

Mr. Gurney was not available to report on the maple trees.

Mother's Brook Graveyard

No word has been received from Fall River since April, and they will be contacted again after July 1st as it is assumed they are busy working on their budget.

Richmond Cemetery

Mr. McCue reported that he has not seen any work done in this cemetery yet.

Winslow Cemetery

Mr. Macomber has been asked to attack this cemetery if and when time permits if he is willing.

Next Meeting

A meeting will be posted for Monday, June 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Barn.

Meeting Adjourned

Upon motion of Mrs. Levesque, duly seconded by Mr. McCue, the board voted to adjourn at 7:49p. The motion carried unanimously.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Michael T. McCue, Chairman