

FREETOWN CEMETERY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Monday, May 14, 2007 Meeting
Multi-Purpose Senior Center – Upstairs Conference Room
227 Chace Rd., East Freetown, Mass.

Present: Ralph Gurney, Chairman; Mike McCue, Secretary; and Harris Chace.

Absent: None.

Guests: Young Harris Chace.

Call to order: Chairman Ralph Gurney called the meeting to order at 6:31p.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 25, 2006, were received and read by Mr. McCue. Upon a motion made by Mr. Gurney, and duly seconded by Mr. Chace, the minutes of September 25th were approved as read. The motion carried unanimously.

Assonet Burying Ground

Mr. Gurney reported that Greg Myers of Lakeville, our new caretaker, has been in contact and is ready to begin the new mowing season. It was decided against mowing for Mother's Day this year, as April had been relatively dry and the grass is not offensively tall. Following discussion on the remainder of this fiscal year, it was agreed to have Mr. Gurney contact Mr. Myers and ask that he mow once for Memorial Day and again in June.

Mr. Gurney reported that on his last visit to the cemetery, the maple trees lining the driveway were still present, and two were decidedly dead. Contact will be made with the Tree Warden regarding the removal of the dead maple trees.

Mr. McCue reported that he had consulted with the Selectmen regarding whether the Cemetery Commissioners could perform tree removal work in the cemetery in exchange for keeping the wood as firewood. The Selectmen felt that the trees would have to be made available for public bid. It was decided that for the time being, this would put an end to members clearing trees at their own expense.

It was also noted that the number of trash barrels in the cemetery is now five.

Evans Cemetery

Mr. Gurney will speak with Mr. Myers regarding mowing the Evans Cemetery. There are sufficient funds in that cemetery's perpetual care account to cover the cost of mowing.

Mother's Brook Graveyard

Mr. McCue reported that the last time he had visited Mother's Brook, the large, dead trees were still standing. Mr. Gurney reported that the condominium association on the Assonet side of the cemetery had been given permission to cut dead trees as they determined necessary, with the provision that only hand tools and not heavy equipment or bucket trucks be used. Mr. McCue reported that during a recent construction project, curbstone had been placed across the driveway to the cemetery, preventing trucks from entering.

Morton Cemetery

Mr. Gurney will speak with Mr. Myers regarding mowing the Morton Cemetery. There are sufficient funds in that cemetery's perpetual care account to cover the cost of at least one mowing.

Richmond Cemetery

Mr. McCue reported that while researching previous Town Meeting minutes, he had discovered that the Richmond Cemetery had in fact been town property since 1895. He presented Messrs. Gurney and Chace with typewritten copies of the original handwritten deed which showed that Col. Silas Richmond deeded the cemetery to the town for one dollar. He also reported that volunteers had begun working to clear the growth in that cemetery.

Maps

There remains \$2,500.00 in the mapping account. After discussion on the topic of maps, it was decided at Mr. Gurney's suggestion that Dave Cass be contacted to see if he would be interested in updating the map of the Assonet Burying Ground since he had produced the 1993 map. Mr. McCue will contact him prior to the next meeting.

Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

Next Meeting

A meeting will be posted for the evening of Monday, June 18th, at 7:00p.

Meeting Adjourned

Upon motion of Mr. Gurney, duly seconded by Mr. McCue, the board voted to adjourn at 6:46p. The motion carried unanimously.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Michael T. McCue
Secretary