

## Cemetery Trustee Meeting Thursday September 28, 2017

In attendance: Marie Grella, Cynthia Dokmo, Lisa Eastland, Mike Akillian

No Citizen Forum.

Lisa moves to accept the minutes of August 8, Cynthia seconded. All in favor, motion passes.

Marie makes an announcement the Jacob has passed his Eagle Scout Project.

At Memory Garden, Carol Pelletier has volunteered to water it for the Trustees and would be glad to recommend what flowers were appropriate to plant in the spring. Marty Warren approached Marie and asked if the Trustees would like to purchase spring bulbs and will email Marie with prices.

Marie welcomed Mike Akillian as the officiant for the Board of Selectman to the Cemetery Trustees. Mike states that he has read a lot of the past minutes and has some questions that he hopes will be answered during the course of this meeting.

An explanation is given as to the vault needed at Cricket Corner and a cement vault vs. a urethane vault. Perry Day arrives and he explains that if the Trustees decided to allow a urethane vault he could pour a cement slab over it to make it easy to access. The Trustees agree on use of a cement vault to be used for the burial and the ordering of an oversized vault to accommodate the wooden urn.

**Headstone size:** Currently the headstone in Meadowview (according to the Rules and Regulations) a headstone is not to exceed 36" in height from the grade to the top of the die, 3 feet by one foot at the base and a 2 feet wide die. It was voted on at the August meeting to keep the existing size rules as per the Rules and Regulations. Discussion follows regarding sizes of headstones. Lisa would like more information and would like to view the Town of Milford Rules & Regulations and check with other regarding headstone size. This discussion will be tabled until the next meeting or when more information is received.

**Geraniums:** refining the letter to the Trustees of the Trust fund. The cost will be split between the perpetual care and the unrestricted Trust Funds. The Cemetery Trustees will list who is under the Perpetual Care Fund. Marie feels that the Trustees should have a separate fund for flowers. The letter to the Trustees of the Trust Fund is signed and will be remitted to the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Lori mix will be notified that this letter is in their mail box at Town Hall.

**Questions/Answers:** The selectman would like to know:

***When will Phase I construction on Forestview Cemetery would start:*** In the spring.

***Where will the funds for Phase I construction come from:*** There was a warrant article to withdraw \$70,000 from the "Unrestricted Fund". The Cy-Pres paperwork will be filed to obtain \$150,000 out of the Perpetual Care Fund (currently has a balance of over 1 million) Bill Drescher is working on. The total will be \$220,000.

***What become of the issue that the overall project will be bigger than Phase I and will require more stringent approvals:*** the overall plan for Forestview is gigantic, but according to current NH law, if what is being constructed is under 1 acre permits are not required. Development will be for 1 acres at a time, until all of Forestview is developed. If there is more than 10 years between each phase additional permitting will not be required. This information was provided by Eric Weinrieb, Altus Engineering. It has been concluded that 1 acre will last 10 years.

***Has the construction gone out to bid?*** Eric Weinrieb suggested that the Trustees wait until January to send this out to bid.

***Where do things stand as far as removing the “Meadowview Only” from the Trust Funds?***

*There is money in a trust fund that states the fund can only be used in Meadowview, somewhere along the line the trustees had said that they would like to use that fund for other cemeteries, have they found out how to change that?* Lisa thinks that this was the Perpetual Care fund, (when they were paying the Maintenance invoice) as no one buried there paid into this fund. There was discussion if a warrant article should be generated to close the Perpetual Care fund completely and deposit the funds in their entirety into a new fund that the trustees could withdraw from without going to town vote. The Trustees of the Trust fund would instruct the Cemetery Trustees on doing that.

***If they are moving forward with construction of Forestview in the spring, where will the monies come from to maintain it?*** That would come from the unrestricted fund. Cynthia studied this and would have a better understanding. There is also a Forestview Cemetery fund (16,000) that funds may be able to be withdrawn. It is not clear if fund can be withdrawn for maintenance or if funds are only for design of Forestview. Marie asks if the “Memorandum of Understanding”, has an explanation. According to the MOU “When Forestview Cemetery is constructed the additional maintenance cost will be the responsibility of the Town” Mike will check to confirm that this is the final document to see if there were subsequent discussions.

***If the voters say no to a warrant article, where would the funds come from?*** The funds are already there, the Trustees have \$70,000. The problem would be if the Courts say no to the Cy-Pres. Cynthia is the Trustee who would have a better explanation of this. Mike asks if something could be sent to him regarding this before the next Board of Selectman meeting. Lisa states that there is currently some question as to the location of the flood plain and if the town wanted to purchase the area that isn't suitable for Forestview Cemetery.

***Is it a possibility to subdivide this land?*** Yes, but It would have to go through the courts. This would up to the Selectmen or the Town (if it was put to a vote) to determine if this would be worth the time and money.

Mike asks if somewhere along the line when surveys were done to determine how much useable space to construct Forestview Cemetery that it has now turned out not to be accurate and there is less useable land than first determined. Marie doesn't think so. This will be determined when the Trustees meet with Altus Engineering. Lisa states that new tests pits were going to be done, due to some questions that were asked regarding the flood plain.

Mike will follow up on the MOU with the Selectman and asks that the Trustees follow up on the “Meadowview only” trust fund rules. Can the role of the Selectman officiant be clarified: some participate but do not vote, the Trustees have their own RSA's. In some cases the selectman would need to be informed of decisions, in others they should be consulted and in others they would need the Selectman approval. It should be determine what things would need clarity and then they can be figured out, the base line is Mike's rule is to share with the Trustees what the Board of Selectman are doing that would have implications for what the Trustees are doing and go to the Board and discuss what the Trustees are doing.

Lisa asks that a detailed list of Perpetual Care be re-sent to Terry Knowles. The Trustees will be sent this list and forward it to Bill Drescher

***Mike asks if the Trustees are using Bill Drescher on their own?*** His understanding is there are only 3 people that can approve the contact of legal counsel: Dwight Brew, Jim O'Mara and .... Permission was granted to the Trustees from Jim O'Mara when they started the Cy-Pres process in February. Mike asks if Jim knows how much the legal expenses have been. Marie states that he should, they have never taken it upon themselves to have Bill attend a meeting without permission from Jim or Dwight. The legal bills are not received by the trustees.

Submissions for the agenda should be submitted 72 hours prior to the meeting.

The next meeting will be October 19, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 2:07

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Delisle