

Morristown Cemetery Association

Minutes of Annual Meeting, May 14, 2024

Members present: Dennis and Lorinda Smith, Cherie Lefevre

Guest present: Sexton Mike Buchanan, Richard Schwaidenbeck, Dawn Kress (Elmore Cem. Assoc.)

Meeting called to order by President Dennis Smith at 4:05 pm.

Public concerns: Richard asked about the status of fence repair at Riverside near the VFW. Dennis to look in to.

Minutes of 2023 Fall meeting were accepted as printed.

Motion was made to waive the reading of the By-laws. Passed.

Due to the absence of Treasurer Jane Paine, Dennis went over financials. He reported there may be errors in the report but since the Town Financial Dept. is short-staffed he will wait to look into it.

Endowment Secretary Lorinda reported on sales, two double lots were sold since the fall meeting and a total of six lots since July 1, 2023. There have been seven interments since July 1.

President's report: Besides the new sexton, the town has hired Ann Thomas as a Cemetery Records Specialist. A meeting will be held May 28 to determine her exact job description. Dennis hopes it will include some fieldwork as well as records at the Town office. Spaulding Property Management will go back to mowing weekly. Dennis spoke at a budget meeting then went to the selectboard and Finance Dept to get this instituted. Weekly mowing may not start until July 1 when the new budget takes effect. The Town has not made mention recently of raising the cost of lots or maintenance fee when a grave is opened. Since we are not in favor of either, we will not bring it up.

Grounds reports: Dennis spoke about the damage done at Laporte Cemetery by a vehicle in March. Repairs are in progress, will continue to monitor. Randolph and Wheeler, in particular, have trees that need attention. We need to get estimates on this work. Vinyl fences at four cemeteries need cleaning. Motion made to investigate getting them pressure washed professionally. Dennis will do some measuring and advertise for bids. The fence at Wheeler needs painting, it was suggested making it a Scout project. When time allows, Dennis will talk to cemetery trustee Jane Paine about her thoughts on this project. Cherie reported a new fallen stone at Lakeview, need to add to repair list.

New Business: Motion made by Cherie, seconded by Lorinda, to elect current slate of officers to continue for the upcoming year: President, Dennis Smith; Vice President, Anne Shackett; Sec/Treas, Jane Paine; Endowment Secretary, Lorinda Smith; Trustee to the Board, Cherie Lefevre. Motion passed. Dennis spoke on recent research at Plains Cemetery and would like to come up with a plan to reopen sales there including a cremation only area. He will continue research and speak with Town officials about the possibility.

Unfinished Business: Dennis has spoken to Cleggs about the list of repairs we gave him last year. We hope he will include us this year. Cleaning of all stones seems to be out of the question due to cost. The excess decorations problem continues. It was suggested we give Sexton Mike a list of general rules to give lot purchasers that also gives the location of complete rules on the website.

Motion to adjourn at 5:00 passed.

Respectfully,

Dennis Smith, President