

Essex Cemetery Commission
Public Meeting Minutes (DRAFT – to be approved)
7/14/2020 – 10:00 AM

Location: Sand Hill Park Pavilion
Members present: Fran Kinghorn, Elaine Strunk, Sue Brown
Members missing: Joan Janzen
Others present:

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Meeting called to order 10:15 AM

1. Public comments –
2. Approval of March and April 2020 meeting minutes – Fran made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as written. Elaine seconded. Approved.
3. Sexton Report – The Commission reviewed the monthly report Bob Covey submitted and all agreed he’s doing an outstanding job. We couldn’t be happier. Sue will contact the Town about Bob’s request to have the weeds surrounding the columbarium killed. Elaine will work on contacting the relatives of people buried where the vegetation removal is in question.
4. Trees, limbs and brush removal – Bob Covey has begun removing/trimming much of the unsightly rogue vegetation in MVC. The Town will be removing two trees. A town resident has volunteered to clean up the brush on the perimeter fencing.
5. Signage – The new signs have been installed and look great. Fran reported she needs to finish putting letters on the posts. Next there needs to be signage for the crossroads (ie Central Avenue).
6. Common Burial Ground – Both the Town and Fran have contacted the Preservation Trust of Vermont regarding the remainder of the grant funds but have received no response. There was a short discussion about why this may be. The Commission will need to pay for the 21 needed engraving as the operating budget permits. Fran has started a list of what needs to be written on each blank replacement stones. About 50% of the list is done. A trip back to the Common is needed to finish the list. / Three sink holes have appeared next to a privately-owned building on the perimeter of the cemetery. The holes will be filled in with dirt. At this time no burials are affected but if the holes get larger an infant burial will be damaged. The Town has informed the owner he needs to install rain gutters. / A resident has complained about the personal items next to the entrance of the Common.
7. Budget -
8. Other – There was a short discussion about changing the regular meeting day and time so Bob Covey could attend meetings if he wanted to, or we need him to. No final decision was made. In the meantime, the plan is to hold the next meeting on Monday, September 14th at 4 pm under the Sand Hill Park pavilion. / Sue volunteered to take the minutes at future meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40.

Next meeting is **Monday, September 14th 10:00 to 11:30 am** Location TBD