

Lakeville Cemetery Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 10:14 a.m. by Chairman Upham in the Local History Room of the Lakeville Public Library.

Members present: Commissioners Upham, Beal and Morton.

Guests: None

Minutes of the February 13, 2019 meeting were read and approved.

There was no Financial Report. Commissioner Beal will go to the Town Hall after the meeting to pick it up from the Accountant's office. He will send us a synopsis if he can get a report.

Old Business:

1. Strobridge Cemetery has been surveyed by John Pink. 497 available spaces have been identified. A private fenced in area and an area with low stones which may signify burials has been left out. Section C or D could be left out for a new Veterans Cemetery should the town need one. A question was posed as to whether we should allow people to pick their own spot or whether we should assign them in order. Clark, Precinct and Strobridge are available for burials. Between these cemeteries we have 1000 spaces available. A motion was made and seconded to sell plots in order at Clark and Strobridge Cemeteries. We will add this to the Rules and Regulations.
2. Commissioners voiced their concerns about the Memorial Plaque for the Smith brothers at Betty's Neck. A much simpler design to honor them was suggested, perhaps a granite stone with an explanatory plaque or a tablet on a pedestal. Chairman Upham will pursue this and speak with Ken Leonard. Tabled until the next meeting.

New Business:

1. There was an issue concerning a burial at Precinct Cemetery. A family wanted a burial while there was still snow on the ground. The cemetery was plowed and the grave was dug. The family was charged extra for this. On the day of the funeral, no cemetery commissioner was available to collect the

check from the funeral director. If none of the Commissioners can attend a funeral, we need to develop a backup plan. Tabled until the next meeting.

2. Next Monday, March 18th, we will attend a joint meeting of the Selectmen and the Finance Committee at the COA at 7:00 p.m. We will present our goals for 2019/2020.
 1. Official taking of cemeteries that have not been given to the town. We will need an attorney to finalize this. MGL allows this to occur.
 2. Search for old granite posts and purchase them for Precinct Cemetery.
 3. Advertise grave spaces available in Lakeville in the newspaper.
 4. Finish cleaning up the back of Precinct Cemetery for cremations only.
 5. File grants for work at Thompson Hill.
 6. Reset stones in all cemeteries which are now lying on the ground.
 7. Survey plots at Clark Cemetery.
 8. Restore the fences at Ward Cemetery.
3. Commissioner Beal would like to see the remainder of the fences at Ward Cemetery repaired. This would cost around \$4000.00.
4. We have heard nothing from Pastor Wiegand concerning Mullein Hill Cemetery, so they will now maintain the cemetery themselves. Chairman Upham will notify the Highway Dept. to no longer take care of it. A question was raised about the Perpetual Care Funds paid to the Town. There have been burials there that we have not been paid for, so we will consider it a wash and there will be no return of funds to them.
5. A bill for \$600 from John Pink for the survey and chart of Strobridge Cemetery and a bill for \$94.33 from Chairman Upham for printer ink and map lamination were approved for payment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

The next meeting will be on April 16, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.