

## **MINUTES OF THE NORWICH CEMETERY COMMISSION**

### **June 16, 2023**

Members present: Dan Goulet, Wilbert "Scooter" Hardy, Emily Myers and Bonnie Munday. Guests present: Jayn Keller, Donna Wheeler, Kip King and George Stonell.

1.) The meeting was called to order at 8:34 am in the Norwich Congregational Church Parish Hall.

2.) Approve payment. The Commission unanimously approved payment for Peter Guillette for tree work/removal done at the Union Village Cemetery.

3.) Green burials. Kip King attended meeting to understand what the Norwich Cemetery Commission's policy is on green burials. This is the first time this topic has been brought to the Commission's attention as an intended burial interested. There is an area in Hillside that may be available for green burials, but the commission will talk with local funeral homes, health state officer, state regulations, Vermont Organization for Green Burials to understand more and to see if it's a viable burial option for Hillside Cemetery.

4.) Other business:

A.) George Stonell provided a list of 19 questions for the commission pertaining to the Commission's rules and burial options. The Commission was able to answer most but will research and get back to Mr. Stonell about the others.

B.) Donna Wheeler and Jayn Keller are advocates for the Beaver Meadow Chapel cemetery. They informed the Commission about serious work/repair that needs to be accomplished to the cemetery. Emily Myers did a site visit with them on behalf of the Commission and verified the need for the work. Scooter Hardy will coordinate with an insured contractor for a quote of the work to include the stone wall repair, overgrowth of lilac bushes through headstones and overgrowth of trees around perimeter. Once the Commission receives a quote of the work, we can decide how to fund the repairs. Perhaps even looking for local/state grants to help.

C.) Water leak at Hillside Cemetery. A water leak at Hillside cemetery was discovered in May, upwards of 400 gallons a day. The Commission decided to permanently turn off the water at this location. There is no requirement to have water here and the work needed to be done and cost to fix this leak would have been exorbitant.

D.) Bonnie will be out of the local area July and August. The Commission needs an alternate to sign checks. Dan nominated Emily, Scooter seconded the nomination and the vote was unanimous to name Emily Myers Bonnie's Alternate whenever she is not able to sign checks.

3. No other business that come before the Cemetery Commissioners. Expected next meeting at end of August.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily P. Myers, Cemetery Commission member