



Town of Candia

Cemetery Trustees

74 High Street

Candia, New Hampshire

03034

Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2009

Chairman Snow opened the meeting at approximately 7 PM in the Meeting Room of the Candia Town Office Building and provided proof of posting. Candia residents Jim Franklin, Jim Lindsey, George Ahern and Judith and Warren Hyde were also present.

An overview of Cemetery Trustees, their duties and responsibilities and the changes in the law in 1994 was presented and reviewed. It was noted, with great regret, that Richard Anderson, the recently retired Superintendent of Cemeteries, had passed away and been interred in the Holbrook Cemetery. Because of the changes in the laws, budget constraints and the Chair's personal belief that Richard Anderson can never be replaced, the Superintendent of Cemeteries position was retired and interred with him. A copy of a petitioned warrant article to rescind the vote to "delegate the duties and responsibilities of the cemetery trustees to the board of selectmen" was discussed and it was noted that the article was being prepared for submission at the next annual Town Meeting.

Copies of the Concord NH cemetery Policies and Rules and some Raymond Cemetery rules markups were made available for review. George Ahern also had a different set of Raymond regulations that he had and he made them available to the meeting. Copies were made for everybody. There was an extensive discussion of the care and maintenance of grave sites by both the cemetery staff and the deceased person's relatives and family and the general concept and limitations of regulations. Dick will start drafting regulations for our cemeteries, as well as bylaws for the trustees.

The group reviewed and discussed some of the plot plans of Holbrook Cemetery, comparing copies of deeds with the layouts. The differences in the language and the costs associated with burial sites, corner markers, and perpetual care were discussed. The documentation from the 1925 will of Henry W. Moore was distributed and discussed. There are stipulations in that bequest that are, perhaps, not being adhered to by the Town, creating a possible liability. It was clear that a lot of work needs to be done to update, clarify and modernize the many different aspects of the cemetery's organizational form and functions. The Hyde's and George Ahern departed from the meeting at approximately 8:15 with the Chair's thanks for attending and participating and an open invitation to attend future meetings.

Extensive discussion was then held on the physical locations and history of the cemeteries in town. Jim Lindsey provided additional data on private cemetery lots. Jim Franklin provided information on the availability of tools for plot-level survey programs (both the mapping and the inventory components), as well as some interesting information on forensic investigation of burial sites. Jim Franklin also provided a

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formal proposal for making progress toward the goal of having a perimeter survey for every cemetery (public & private) in town. Because the proposed cost is so low that it almost qualifies as a donation, Dick will review it and see if we can get the money encumbered out of this year's budget. Additional work could then be done next year to survey the location of the internal features of the cemeteries, including roads and other physical features.

The Chair will work with the office staff to develop and implement any necessary actions formalizing the cemetery operating and reporting procedures that become effective 1 January 2010 and report on the status at the next meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting (11/13/09) were accepted as presented.

There being no additional "Other Business", the chair thanked all the attendees for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 8th, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the Town Office Building Meeting room.