

## Chesterfield Cemetery Commission meeting - October 10, 2017

Present: Dave Smith, Pat Porter, Neil Jenness, Rick Johnston, Cheryl Maibusch  
Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Neil brought Chris Flagg's proposed budget up for discussion. It was gone over and it was felt that Chris has a good feel for his department and his numbers would be as accurate as anyone could get so in due course, Rick's budget for 2018 was approved by the Commission with Rick making the motion and Pat seconding it.

As part of that discussion it was mentioned that there was \$13,000 in the truck fund and \$12,000 in the mower fund. Cheryl asked if money was ever raised specifically for headstone maintenance in the form of lichen removal or cleaning & brightening those that have turned dark. It was suggested that in the spring the commission could do an inventory throughout our cemeteries to see how many stones needed such attention and revisit how to handle them at that time.

At the September meeting, the August meeting minutes had not been formally approved as there wasn't a quorum. So at this October meeting, the August meeting minutes were approved as amended with a corrected spelling of the Heaney name, with Pat motioning and Rick seconding.

Also at this October meeting, the minutes from the September meeting were also approved as originally provided. Pat motioning & Neil seconding.

It was also noted that two cemetery lots will be repurchased from Carol Ross.

Neil brought up the previously introduced idea of some type of memorial area for people who are not buried, or who do not have remains interred, in our cemeteries but who still would like some evidence of having spent time in our area. Neil has visited two cemeteries who have had such areas. The idea of offering a space for memorial plaques or engravings was reprised. It was thought that a discussion with Keene Monument over the winter might be in order to get their thoughts on how such an area might be constructed. We are also interested in taking a Commission field trip to see other places who have something like this in the spring.

It was mentioned that the plot that adjoins Howard Hamlin's plot has had plantings placed that encroach on Howard's plot. Chris & his staff should remove the offending shrub and the day lilies also need removal. Neil can provide the appropriate cemetery location.

Cheryl brought up some old business from August asking if a decision had been reached on how to handle the incorrect Barber burial location in Friedsam. Answer: No, it is still an open matter.

Finally, some of the commissioners would like to visit the more outlying & difficult-to-get-to cemeteries in 2018 because we haven't seen them with our own eyes in quite a while. Chris Flagg & his crew visit all cemeteries at least once each year but the Commissioners would like to take another field trip to see them for themselves.

This was the last meeting for the 2017 season. The next Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 6:30 at the Chesterfield Historical Society.

Motion made by Rick and seconded by Pat to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Maibusch

Cemetery Commissioner