

Chesterfield Cemetery Commission Meeting - June 11, 2019

Present: Committee Members Neil Jenness, Ed Cheever, Pat Porter, Fran Shippee, Cheryl Maibusch, Sexton Chris Flagg, Guest Paul Link

Meeting took place at the Chesterfield Library and was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Meeting minutes from April 9, 2019 were approved.

Chris Flagg gave the following report:

- Friedsam Cemetery roadway was paved at the cost of \$7900. This leaves a balance of +/- \$3K remaining. Chris wondered if we could gain access to funds in the expendable trust. Alyssa Fox would have to be consulted for the answer to that question. A project that could use extra funding would be to remove the pine trees that are on the crest of the hill in Friedsam Cemetery. Doing that would allow the ability to open up more ground for future interments.
- New employee Zach Witten has joined Chris' crew. He will be going before the Select Board to meet them. He may need to also hire additional help to get through the summer.
- Scheduled interments include a cremation tomorrow & on Sunday, a full body on Monday, and two more interments in July.
- Someone, perhaps the Boy Scouts(?), set up some wreaths in the cemeteries last year but never came back to remove them for the winter. Clean up is needed.
- It has been a hectic spring with the weather causing the grass to grow. Chris has not done any headstone repairs and he still needs to get out to the cemetery in Pisgah to check on its condition.
- Chris will be on vacation from June 20-30. Tom will be gone from June 26-30.

Neil brought up an issue for discussion and vote. There is a property owner who owns the land adjacent to the Draper-Crouch cemetery. She is making her final plans and would like to be cremated and interred in the Draper-Crouch Cemetery because her land abuts it and it has become a place that she visits. That cemetery has been closed to burials for years & years so would need to be allowed by assent of the Committee. Discussion ensued and it was felt that, since her land abuts and since it would be a cremation burial (not a full body burial) with a small marker that it could be allowed in her specific case. A vote confirmed that decision. The property owner will be notified of the Committee's decision.

Guest Paul Link was invited to attend our meeting tonight because he had approached Chris as being interested in assisting with headstone repair. He is a retired carpenter by trade and would like to address the stones that were damaged in West Cemetery along Welcome Hill Rd. when the large tree fell down into it last year. Chris could supply material funding for repairs. We look forward to having Paul work with us to keep our cemeteries in tip-top shape!

Neil mentioned that the Chesterfield Cemetery book is being worked on to be updated with all the new burials since it was last updated in 2004. Cheryl had received an inquiry as to whether or not it would be allowable to add the cemetery map pages from that book to each cemetery's home page on Find-A-Grave as a resource for those who may decide to visit the cemetery. Neil gave permission for that to be done, citing that the more information that is out there for researchers is a good thing.

It was also decided to go back to meeting every month instead of every other month. So, the next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 9 at 6:30 at the Library.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Maibusch
Cemetery Commissioner