

Worcester Cemetery Commission Meeting
Wednesday, May 10, 2023
Town Offices
MINUTES - Draft

Present: Fran Cerulli, Heather Pagel

Guest: Victor Ehly

Called to order at 4:30 p.m.

- 1) **Welcomed Guest** - Victor Ehly is interested in hearing about the green burial option. He was encouraged by Roxbury's concept, without markers and being a "garden" area. Our thought is that there should at least be foot markers; so we can identify where people are buried.

We also talked about families that have home/family burials on their property. However, Vermont burial laws require that families provide notification to their town clerk's office, providing information as to where the family member is buried on their property for future reference, if the property is sold. We talked about posting this information on Front Porch Forum, or on the town website; so local residents are aware of the recommendation to provide home/property burial information to the Town Clerk.

- 2) **Green Burials (Where)** – Discussed moving forward with green burials and location of where it might be located. Fran verified with Joe M. (our sexton) on other areas that might work. Joe said he can do some clearing out behind the back row, in the right hand corner of the Mountain Cemetery for minimal costs. Joe mentioned we will need some clean fill to flatten out the area after it's cleared. Fran will ask the Worcester road crew if there might be some dirt/fill from when the town works on road ditching.
- 3) **Update Cemetery Map** – We will wait to work on this at the next meeting.
- 4) **Clearing overgrown lot in Mountain Cemetery** – Fran knows the area and will discuss what needs to be cleared, when she talks with Joe next.
- 5) **Repair of Village Cemetery shed roof** – Heather will talk with Jacob to get an idea of whether the roof needs to be repaired or replaced, and get an estimate on possible costs.
- 6) **Old Business** – Talked about plot sales and upcoming burials. Will wait on updating the cemetery maps at a later date.
- 7) **New Business** – After Joe clears the area that may be used for a green burial site, we'll ask the lot sizes. Then, based on sizes and number of plots, we'll get an estimate for price/costs from Lisa Ginnette, who does the marking/discs for our cemetery plot markers. If the area for green burial works, then Lisa can survey and do new markers, as well as make new, updated maps for the Mountain Cemetery.
- 8) **Next Meeting** - Next meeting date TBD. We will wait until the Mountain Cemetery's possible green burial site is cleared and hopefully filled/leveled.

Notes respectfully submitted by Heather Pagel.