

CEMETERY COMMITTEE
Town of Sullivan, Maine

Minutes of Meeting of January 17, 2024

A meeting of the Cemetery Committee was called to order at 5:05 p.m. on January 17, 2024 at Town Hall. Members present: Chairman Gary Edwards, Jeanne Edwards, Myra Hornberger, Robert Dahn. DJ Deans. Members absent: Andrea St. George Jones, Mary Hanna.

It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of November 15, 2023 as corrected.

Gary announced that the Town Manager would like the recommendation of the Cemetery Committee for the 2024-2025 Budget. After discussion, the committee recommends to the Town Manager the following preliminary budget items: \$15,000 for the mowing contract and \$15,000 for maintenance. The committee believes that a list of the maintenance work to be done, with estimates, should accompany the recommendation, including \$10,000 for tree removal, road repair within Blaisdell cemetery, road repair on one section of road at York Hill.

Gary announced that he intends to resign the chairmanship of the Cemetery Committee this year although he intends to stay on the committee.

The signs approved for each cemetery will be completed for spring installation. We need to decide where the sign will be installed at each cemetery and hire someone to install them.

There was discussion about the appointment of a Sexton for Sullivan's cemeteries, what the responsibilities of the position should be, how the position should be filled, who should the Sexton be accountable to, whether to compensate and if so, how. No action was taken. DJ will research whether or not we must include a paragraph concerning the Sexton in the Cemetery Ordinance.

Gary proposed that we invite the Town Manager to the next meeting to review reserve accounts and perpetual care accounts, the Sexton role, and how the committee can best support the Town. Gary will check to see if the Town Manager is available on the date of our next regular meeting on February 21. It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to schedule the meeting for 3:00 p.m. instead of at 5:00 p.m., for that meeting only, in consideration of the Town Manager's work day and the time when the Town Office is open for support.

Robert reported that our grant application was not approved.

Robert showed us a replacement rod he was able to make for the damaged veterans flag holders at York Hill Cemetery. The replacement is made of 3/8" aluminum round rod and he was able to make 100 of them at a cost of \$5.05 each.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be on February 22 at 3:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

DJ Deans