

Hollis Cemetery Trustees
Meeting Minutes, July 10, 2023
The meeting was held at Hollis East Cemetery starting at 7:30 p.m. and
concluded at 8:40 p.m.

FINAL

Trustees in attendance: Melinda Willis, Lisa Schmalz, Raul Blanche, and Marc Squires.

- 1) **Meeting at East to address a lot with several unapproved monuments and excessive lot plantings** – The Trustees resumed discussion on this topic from the June 2 meeting at which it was initially discussed at length. The primary monument in question is too large and tall, almost 6 feet tall, much taller than the monument size allowed for a two-lot configuration under the cemetery rules. In addition, there were four other statues and plaques that are not approved per existing cemetery rules. Specifically, the monument in question has a base above ground that is 24" X 24 ½" X 20 ¼" with a cube on top that is 31 ¼" in height for a total height of approximately 57 ½". **This is a violation since according to the rules the maximum height allowed is 42".** The trustees agreed that the next step will be for the Trustees to notify the family via written correspondence and request that they respond within 30 days with a plan to modify or replace the monument and to remove statues and decorations on the lot to be consistent with cemetery rules. If approved by the Trustees, the plan must be implemented within 90 days of the mailed request.
- 2) **Discuss plantings of trees at East Section J** - This topic was not discussed fully. The investigation on what types of trees, how many to plant, and how much it will cost is continuing.
- 3) **Review updates to Cemetery Rules and Regulations** – Cemetery rules are being reviewed by the Trustees.
- 4) **Provide update on Church Cemetery monument project** – Raul provided a brief update regarding three projects including 1) reinstallation of two fallen monuments, realignment of over a dozen leaning monuments, and reinstallation of at least 18 old stones that over the years fell, broke, or were removed from their original location.
- 5) **Ratify Informational notes from April 22 meeting** - Item 1 - Marc made a motion (Lisa seconds the motion) to allow Randall (father) and Barrett (son) Clark to each purchase one RTI. The motion is passed in the affirmative on a 4-0 vote.
Item 2 - Marc made a motion (Lisa seconds the motion) not to grant a request by the Hollis Social Library to permit New England Curiosities to conduct fee-based tours of any cemetery in Hollis in October, or any month of the year. The motion is passed in the affirmative on a 4-0 vote.

6) Meeting Minutes (MM) approval – On a motion by Lisa seconded by Melinda, the June 2, 2023, meeting minutes were approved in the affirmative on a 4-0 vote.

7) Future Trustee meetings – The next two meetings are scheduled for Friday July 28 starting at 5:30 p.m. at North Cemetery and Saturday August 19 at 7:30 a.m., at a TBD location.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. on a 4-0 vote in the affirmative, based on a motion by Raul seconded by Melinda.

Respectfully submitted,

Raul Blanche