

Hollis Cemetery Trustees
FINAL
Meeting Minutes, November 4, 2023
The meeting was held at Hollis Town Hall starting at 7:30 a.m. and concluded at 9:38 a.m.

Trustees in attendance: Melinda Willis, Amy Armstrong, Raul Blanche, and Marc Squires.

- 1) Anita Walker to discuss Gravestone cleaning Project and available grants from Daughters of American Revolution (DAR) for restoration of Church Cemetery Stones** – Raul provided a status on the request and the response. Cleaning of a few stones will start in the spring, 2024. According to and consistent with RSA 289:14-A I permission was granted by the Trustees to clean select stones for which permission was obtained from several descendant families. That information was provided to the Trustees via correspondence dated July 25, 2023. Detailed information on specific stones to be cleaned, how and when permission was obtained from whom, and location of stones will be documented prior to cleaning.
- 2) Lisa McCann request to purchase another lot at East** – This request was not fully discussed.
- 3) Discuss American flags at cemetery lots** – Landscapers have notified the Trustees that some flags are in the way of mowers, and some have been accidently shredded. The trustees discussed the issue and agreed to modify the existing rules to specify that the flags must be placed flush with the monument.
- 4) Installation of section indicators for Section J at East** – Melinda took an action to discuss status and plans with the DPW Director.
- 5) 2024 landscape contract** – The current company notified the Trustees that they will not bid on next year's contract. The cost of mowing is expected to increase significantly. The trustees discussed options and plan on obtaining three bids.
- 6) Discuss 2024 budget** – The Trustees discussed and prepared an initial draft budget for 2024. It represents a substantial increase from the 2023 budget due primarily to expected increases in ground maintenance, tree plantings, and funding of a trust for future cemetery expansion at East.
- 7) Dead tree in the East Cemetery, Section E, lots 79 and 79A** – Although DPW declared the tree dead, the owner begs to disagree. Amy took an action to contact an arborist to schedule a tree pruning.

8) Update on Section J tree plantings at East – This topic was not discussed.

9) Update broken monuments repair/replacement project at Church Cemetery – The Powars monument was repaired and re-erected in its original location. Medlyn Monument has not yet submitted an invoice. Raul took an action to contact at least two companies to obtain bids on re-erecting leaning monuments at Church; if the monuments fall, they are likely to break.

10) Future Trustee meetings – Next meetings scheduled for Saturday December 2nd starting at 8:00 a.m. at Town Hall and Saturday, Jan. 6 at 8 a.m.at the Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m. on a 4-0 vote in the affirmative, based on a motion by Amy seconded by Marc.

Respectfully submitted,

Raul Blanche