

## Hollis Cemetery Trustees

FINAL Meeting Minutes, December 16, 2017  
Meeting held at East Cemetery and Town Hall, Hollis

Trustees in attendance: Melinda Willis, Raul Blanche, Amy Armstrong, Lisa Schmalz, and Marc Squires. Melinda called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

- 1) Request to purchase 2 lots in the two-lot section of East Cemetery - The requestor's grandfather and father are both buried in Section E, but the requestor, Donna who lives in Columbus Ohio and whose grandfather is Phillip Hoar and her father is also named Phillip Hoar, has never lived in Hollis. She would like to purchase the rights to inter for herself, her husband, and one other person. The question is, does having family buried in a Hollis cemetery means that lots can be purchased? If so, does she need to provide familial proof that she's related to the deceased buried in East?

The current cemetery rule states that "...only current or former residents of Hollis, New Hampshire are qualified to purchase a Right to Inter within town-owned cemeteries." The question for the Trustees is, should this purchase be allowed? This is considered a special exception. A solution to avoid this in the future would be to request that people who live in Hollis and own burial rights and have family members who would also like to be buried in Hollis, should include in their will the ownership record of their lot(s) and name the other persons who may also be buried, capacity permitting. If the names are then recorded in the town's records, then the other persons could also be buried. After some discussion, the Trustees took a vote on the topic. Marc made a motion to approve Donna's request to purchase two rights to inter (whatever lots are available) at East Cemetery with a special exception that descendants are to be the only people that could be buried at said lots. Lisa seconded the motion. It was noted that the Trustees are granting a special exception because of the family history and their burial in town. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

*The Trustees would like to recognize the Trustees' assistant, Ms. Beverly Hill for her dedication and graciousness in dealing with the public, as well as her initiative and accuracy in succinctly documenting and describing the requests and resulting issues to be addressed by the Trustees. She is doing a very fine job and should be recognized!*

- 2) Directional/Section Signs at East – Amy and Lisa met with Paul Tripp at East to discuss the topic and consider options. Considerations include longevity and visibility, flush and/or standup markers, potential damage from snow plowing, and determination of where to place the signs for the 9 avenues and roads. Pillars as an option is a consideration. Total project cost is still to be determined and the Trustees would like to keep the total cost at a reasonable level. In addition, Amy will follow-up with the IT person for the town to investigate

development of a digitized map of East Cemetery and possible other cemeteries to facilitate future recognition of landmarks and locations within the cemetery.

- 3) Artesian Well at North cemetery – Initial cost estimates are based on a well 100 feet deep and a need to go through the bedrock: \$8K - \$10K total cost.
- 4) Approval of Meeting Minutes – The October 28 Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved on a 4-0 vote (Marc had to leave before the meeting adjourned) as amended on a motion made by Amy and seconded by Lisa.
- 5) Review of Expenditure Report – Marc made a motion to encumber \$2K for purpose of purchasing and installing an entrance sign for the Pine Hill Cemetery during the spring, 2018. Based on the remaining balances on several budget line items, there are sufficient funds to cover the expected cost. Melinda seconded the motion and it passed on a 5-0 vote.

The next Trustees' meeting is planned for Friday January 12<sup>th</sup> for a non-public meeting to be held at the town hall at 7:00pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:00am, at Town Hall. Three public speakers are planned: Ms. Sharon Howe (burial records at Pine Hill) at 8:00am; Mr. Aidan Nicholls (digitization of burial records at North) at 8:30am; and Mr. Ouellette (East mapping) at 8:45am for 15 minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:34am on a motion by Lisa seconded by Raul.

Respectfully submitted,

Raul Blanche