

Minutes of Meeting
Nelson Cemetery Board
Tuesday, May 28, 2019, 6:00 PM

DRAFT

Members Present: Harry Flanagan, Linda Cates, Al Stoops

Harry called the meeting to order just after 6:00 PM.

Harry thanked Al for his good work in locating the four corners of the new cemetery, Cemetery Three. Harry and Al worked together with a good compass (and Al's good compass skills) and Harry's 200 foot tape. They found three pins and one hole drilled in a rock, marking the four corners. They flagged the lines. There may be an error on the plans as they do not match up with the actual distances of the lines. Less than half of the cemetery land is a cleared field and the rest is second growth forest.

Elaine had reported in via email that Mike Tarr has agreed to put down gravel to define the roadway in Cemetery 2. We need to put out stakes to better define the roadway.

We need to follow up with Elaine to find out if the Town can also do the drainage work of if Harry needs to be in touch with Phil Hamilton about that.

Harry reported that he called John Kaufhold of Peterborough Monument and Granite. Harry and Elaine met with him at Munsonville Cemetery. He is on board to do the work on headstones this year. Harry reported that Kaufhold said that due to cremations instead of burials, the sale of monuments has almost disappeared. It's now 80% cremations. Harry also reported that there are only three lots left for resale (from Elaine Andrews) in the Munsonville Cemetery.

Al reported that he has not talked to Betsy Street about her land abutting the new cemetery. He will measure and map the field that is on cemetery land and Betsy's land. Harry and Al feel that the new cemetery will meet Nelson's needs for many generations to come, especially due to the move from burials to cremations.

Linda handed out copies of some of the language from the current Cemetery Rules and Regulations. We proposed, seconded and approved new language regarding cremains. The old language was "Cremains are permitted in a vault made of fiberglass, concrete or another approved permanent material." The new language is "**Cremains are permitted in an urn or**

other container." We intentionally chose not to specify what kind of container can be used. That will be up to the family interring the cremains.

We discussed several other parts of the Rules and Regulations but felt that more discussion is needed before we proceed. For example, benches are prohibited in the Rules and Regulations, but have been allowed. We would like to delete the language prohibiting benches but we have to decide how to classify benches. Are they a "monument" and since only one monument is allowed per lot, does that mean that you can't have a headstone and bench on the same lot? That is our thinking at the moment. We will revisit this issue and come up with new language at a future meeting.

We also discussed the mechanism for "Cemetery Board Approval" for "shrubs, before planting" and "all memorials, including monuments, tombstones, gravestones, boulders and markers." We will also need to discuss this at a future meeting.

Cleaning of headstones is scheduled for Saturday, June 15 at 11 AM. The rain date is Sunday afternoon June 16, but Harry is not available that day.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed, approved as written and signed by the board members present. Linda will get a copy of the signed minutes to Edie.

Harry adjourned the meeting at 6:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Linda Cates