

Ripton Cemetery Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2014

Ripton Town Office 7:30 PM

Members Present: Liz Walker, Charles Billings, Bonnie Swan, Cheryl Larocque and Lisa Knickerbocker (initials BS, LW, CB, CL and LK are used in motions/votes)

Motions made/votes taken:

Moved/seconded/voted approval of Minutes of 10/1/14: BS/LW/all

Moved/seconded/voted approval of Burial Rights Documents for Cook and Galvin Cemeteries with revision date added: LK/CL/all

Moved/seconded/voted approval to adopt the Pricing Table of lot costs and number of permitted burials per lot, with cornerstone options removed and revision date of 10/1/14 added: BS/LW/all

Discussion:

Agenda distributed to attendees. See attachment 1-1 11/5/2014. Typing error on item 3Aii. Remove "burial and"

- 1) **Minutes** - The October 1, 2014 minutes were approved with typing error changed on page 3. Lisa made the motion to approve minutes, seconded by Cheryl. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote. Attachment 1-2 11/5/2014.

- 2) **Previous Business**

A) Galvin Cemetery – Charles presented the survey of the Galvin Cemetery prepared by Short Survey for the 1 acre of land being donated by Middlebury College. With approval of the selectmen, the survey is now in the hands of Ripton's attorney to draw up a deed. Once available it will be forwarded to Middlebury College for action. Ripton cannot start using the land until the gift is complete and state laws are met for laying out roads, etc. Attachment 1-3 11/5/2014.

B) Cook Cemetery- Liz and Charles met Tim Short and his employee Rodney to walk the boundary of the Cook cemetery and land that the Hanson family would like to donate for the Cook expansion. We also discussed the need to survey the portion of the cemetery with empty lots. Tim will write a proposal to survey the existing cemetery boundaries and new land, and a separate one for the lots that are still available to sell within the newer section of Cook. If the commission spends time flagging this section we may save some money on the survey. Charles realized, after giving a map to Tim and Rodney, that it showed 12X16 foot lots, which we are no longer selling, so Charles will let them know that all remaining lots will be based on 4 X 12 foot increments.

C) Christie Lafayette's grievances and questions – Bonnie sent a letter and map to Christie.

D) Review Pricing Table of lot costs and permitted burials – Committee accepted approved revision of Pricing Table with cornerstone options removed. Commission moved/seconded/approved

adopting the new fee schedule and number of permitted burials per lot: LK/CL/all. Attachment 1-4 11/5/2014.

3) New Agenda Items

A. Burial Rights documents for Cook and Galvin with revisions - Revision date has been added to document(s). Cornerstones are back to being the responsibility of the person(s) purchasing the lot(s). Commission moved/seconded/approved adopting the document with these 2 changes: CL/LK/all.

B. Examine revisions and clarifications to Ripton Cemetery Rules and Regulations document -

i. Reviewed document with revisions from 10/1/14 meeting.

ii. Work order permit – table till December meeting

iii. Specify job responsibilities of Sexton - ongoing

iv. Table of contents to be updated to match body of document - ongoing

v. Discuss plantings in section V.6. There was new input from Lisa and Liz regarding raised boarders, plantings, other decorations and a set date(s) each year for clearing items from the cemetery. Committee decided to table further discussion until the December meeting. Members will bring their proposed changes in writing.

C) Cemetery Sexton description and responsibilities document –Made modifications to draft submitted by Charles. Continue at December meeting. Attachment 1-5 11/5/2014

Note – Charles, via email, asked the Ripton Town Clerk and the assistant to the Selectboard to comment on any section of the Rules and Regulations that involved them.

Future item - Memorial Gardens for sprinkling cremation ashes - was deleted per agreement at July 2, 2014 meeting, but the Committee is keeping the option open with newly donated land additions to the 2 cemeteries. The Hanson's suggested that there may be an area along the driveway as it goes from the newer part of the Cook cemetery into the new land they are donating if we make a rotary drive on the donated addition. There would be no individual markers in the Memorial Gardens. There is a question whether we need to record the name of people whose ashes are dispersed in the cemetery.