



TOWN OF HUDSON

Cemetery Trustees



David Alukonis

Mary Ellen Gannon

Janet Ercolini

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**July 15, 2019 at 7:00
p.m.**

Minutes

Buxton Community Development Meeting
Room

1. Call to order by Mary Ellen Gannon at 7:00PM
2. Attendance: David Alukonis, Janet Ercolini, Mary Ellen Gannon
3. Public Input:
 - Dave Morin: discussed volunteers to take care of Sunny Side cemetery. Since it is not a town cemetery, there was concern about liability and if there would be an objection to a waiver. David Alukonis did not believe that there would an objection and he will follow up with Dave on the volunteers.
 - Christina Madden, Commander VFW Hudson, discussed walking through Sunny Side cemetery looking for veterans and questioned if there would be any issues with the laying of wreaths honoring the veterans as part of Wreaths Across America. David Alukonis did not feel that there would be any objections to this.
4. New Business:
 - **Nominations /Election of Officers**

Chair: David Alukonis nominated Mary Ellen Gannon. The nomination was seconded by Janet Ercolini. May Ellen accepted the nomination.

Clerk: Mary Ellen Gannon nominated Janet Ercolini. The nomination was seconded by David Alukonis. The nomination was accepted by Janet
 - **Sunny Side Cemetery**

David Alukonis gave a history of Sunny side cemetery and the Hudson Cemetery Association. The Hudson Cemetery Association was dissolved in 1985 and the person who had been caring for Sunny Side is no longer able to do so. Since the

cemetery has been cared for, the ideal solution would be to petition probate court and Appoint a new Hudson Cemetery Association with a board of trustees to get the deed. Attorney Brenda Smith-Weis, a Nashua lawyer and board member of Hills Farm cemetery, will handle the case. The cost is estimated at \$500-\$1200. There are already a number of pledges. Money will be put in escrow for her fees. An anticipated decision should be made in Sept / Oct. Approximately 20 people have been attending the meetings regarding the cemetery. The only opposition has been in the form of a letter to the editor. Most attendees are descendants. A Master plot plan has been found and families are being asked to help with records. Mark Coulombe is a contractor for digging the graves. He is familiar with many of the Hudson cemeteries and may have a lot of information. Alukonis hopes to see an advisory board remain as the cemetery still has active burials.

A motion was made by David Alukonis to support the efforts of the ad hoc community group to re-establish the "Hudson Cemetery Association" which owns the cemetery commonly known as "Sunny Side". The motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

- **Budget**

Mary Ellen Gannon reviewed the budget. The budget remains unchanged from last year. The amount is \$1,210.00.

- Review of cemeteries site visit (7/14/19)

Ford: Walls and grounds look good. It appears that someone may have cleaned the stones. Issues found: Gate needs to be re-hung. It was suggested to put in posts as the wall would not be able to with stand drilling.

Blodgett: Th condition of the grounds are unchanged. The headstones are in fair shape. The stone wall needs repair as does the metal railing on the Central St side.

Center: Grounds are good, the headstones are fair. One headstone needs to be reset

Senter: Grounds are unchanged. 1 newly broken headstone

Poorfarm: Great shape. The chain surrounding the area is in great shape.

Mel will reach out to Jess at Town Hall as well as the Highway department for guidance/ideas on necessary repairs.

- **Repair/Clean/Restore headstones**

Mary Ellen discussed trying a cleaning solution to clean the headstones. The product she has researched is D2 biodegradable solvent. She has information sheets available to view. The solvent does not harm the surrounding grass and continues to clean over time.

Mary Ellen entered the motion to purchase a D2 Biodegradable solvent kit for \$40. The motion was passed unanimously.

David stated that he could reset some stones in the Fall

- Our **next meeting** will be scheduled for early **September**

5. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Ellen and seconded by Janet Ercolini. All members are in agreement. The meeting adjourned at 7:49PM

Janet Ercolini

Janet Ercolini
Cemetery Trustee, Clerk

07/16/19

Date