

PEMBROKE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING

October 13, 2022

Minutes

Present: Dan Chase, James Garvin, Adam Mendoza, Ellen Paulsen (chair), Zachary Sawyer, Fleda Young

1. The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.
2. The minutes of the meeting of September 8, 2022, were approved.

Old business:

3. The Commission received an email message from Catrina Rantala on October 6th proposing that Pembroke Cub Scout Pack 270 would remove the veterans' flags from Evergreen Cemetery on November 19, 2022, if a representative of the Commission could meet and direct the removal. Ms. Rantala reported that invitations will be extended to 23 scouts and their parents, although it is still uncertain how many of the scouts will actually attend. Ms. Rantala also proposed that the scouts would also like to consider replacing the flags on May 27, 2023.

Commission member Dan Chase, who is in charge of Evergreen Cemetery for the Commission, suggested that older Cub Scouts, approaching the age of becoming Boy Scouts, would be the best candidates for the flag removal. He also noted that this could be an appropriate event for coverage in the Concord *Monitor* and offered to try to contact reporter Ray Duckler, who is assigned to coverage of the Suncook Valley for the *Monitor*. He offered to take responsibility for coordinating the event with scout leader Catrina Rantala.

Dan suggested that this would be a good opportunity to explain the level of respect that is appropriate in cemeteries, thereby addressing the scouts' duty of "reverence."

Fleda Young observed that there may be a need to cut or break some flag sticks that cannot be removed from the flag holders.

4. Chair Ellen Paulsen noted that Commission members should plan to remove veterans' flags from the other Pembroke cemeteries after November 11 (Veterans' Day).
5. Adam Mendoza reported that V. J. Ranfos had returned the flagpole light offered by Dan Chase because the light is a model that attaches to the top of the flagpole rather than resting on the ground where it would be accessible for maintenance. Dan Chase will look at the flagpole at Pembroke Street Cemetery to see if the pole could be lowered for attachment of the light.

6. Adam reported that arrangements have been made for removing the dead tamarack tree in Buck Street Cemetery.
7. Dan Chase distributed literature on a line of “Gazebos-in-a-Box” manufactured by Amish Country Gazebos. He suggested that one of these prefabricated gazebos would be appropriate for placement at the top of the hill in Evergreen Cemetery, where high ledge prevents burials and where the name “Pavilion Avenue” suggests that such a structure may once have stood or been proposed. This manufacturer makes models in wood and vinyl, and Dan suggested that a fourteen-foot vinyl octagonal model with a composite deck would be appropriate for the cemetery. The cost of such a structure, with turned posts and spindles, would be approximately \$18,135 at 2022 prices.

The Commission discussed questions of who would fund the purchase and who would assemble the gazebo kit and maintain the structure in future years. Dan suggested that this might make an appropriate Eagle Scout project, or that the Commission might solicit donations from families who have had burials in Evergreen Cemetery during the past twenty years.

The Commission agreed to resume this discussion at our next scheduled meeting in April 2023.

8. Adam Mendoza reported that he had no further business to bring before the Commission.
9. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission will be at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at the Public Works headquarters on Exchange Street in Suncook Village.

Please note: By consensus in March 2023, the April meeting of the Pembroke Cemetery Commission was rescheduled to Thursday, April 6, 2023 at the Public Works headquarters on Exchange Street in Suncook Village.

10. On a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Garvin, Secretary