

PEMBROKE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING
May 12, 2010
Minutes

Present: Patricia Bonenfant, James Garvin, VJ Ranfos, David Richards (chair).

1. Chairman Richards called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. at the Pembroke Town Hall.
2. The minutes of April 14, 2010, were approved.
3. Sally Hyland of Batchelder Road came to the meeting to ask about Buck Street Cemetery. She reported that the mowing contractors repeatedly cut the pink flowering creeping phlox that grows in the cemetery, destroying the blossoms. She asked if the Commission could request that the mowers not disturb the phlox until it has finished blooming each spring. VJ agreed to ask the contractors not to mow the phlox in April and May of the year.
4. The Commission discussed repairs to wind damage that occurred at Pembroke Street Cemetery. A representative from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) met twice with Public Works director Jim Boisvert. FEMA will pay up to \$1,000 for wall repairs and up to \$100 per stone for repairs. Perry Brothers Monument Company has estimated repairs to the three broken stones at \$125 each. The FEMA reimbursement will not be returned to the Cemetery Commission budget, but to the town's general fund.
5. In light of an earlier indication by Gerard Fleury that Perpetual Care funds might be applicable to repair damage to Perpetual Care lots, the Commission had agreed to inquire into the possibility of using Perpetual Care funds for repairs. Jim Garvin reported that the three monuments in Pembroke Street Cemetery that were broken by falling trees were those of Samuel Gault, Samuel Colby, and Matthias Nutter. These names are not listed among the known Perpetual Care endowment funds, and the three stones predate the establishment of Perpetual Care in 1888. Since the Perpetual Care trust fund principal grew several times in the 1980s without any known linkage to specific lot owners, the Commission agreed to ask the Trustees of Trust Funds whether any of these funds might be unconnected to specific lots, and thus available for general repairs in Pembroke Street Cemetery.
6. Chairman Dave Richards reminded Jim Garvin that a Grace Forest had contacted Dave regarding William Appleton, the Congressional Medal of Honor recipient who is buried in the Badger-Appleton tomb. Jim agreed to search for any additional information that the Commission might have assembled on William Appleton.

7. VJ Ranfos reported on the costs of tree cleanup from the wind storm. Collins Tree Service of Hooksett used a crane to remove some trees. Their charges were \$4,600 for Pembroke Street Cemetery and \$1,776 for Evergreen Cemetery. These expenditures have exhausted the Cemetery Commission's budget for calendar year 2010. Jim Boisvert has made the cleanup of town cemeteries before Memorial Day a high priority. The town crews have been working on this cleanup and their labor has saved the town a large sum that would have been expended if cleanup had been put out to bid.
8. VJ reported that he has been contacted by Jeannie Gloddy regarding a lot that her family purchased. The family has learned that they can be buried at the Veterans' Cemetery, so would like to sell their Pembroke lot back to the town. Jim Goff is now researching the Gloddy deed. The town's practice has been to re-purchase lots at the price the owner paid rather than current prices, if different.
9. Wright-Pierce has continued to map the Pembroke cemeteries and have borrowed all old plans and cemetery records. They have submitted a plan of Buck Street Cemetery.
10. The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on Wednesday, June 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pembroke Town Hall.
11. On a motion by James Garvin, seconded by Patricia Bonenfant, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James L. Garvin
Secretary