Town of Chebeague

Cemetery Committee Meeting

January 23 2017
Present:
  • Gail Miller, Beth Wiles, and Ann Thaxter.
  • Jane Frizzell and Donna Damon joined the meeting at a later time.

Review Cemetery Minutes

  • Due the lack of a quorum minutes for August, September and October were
tabled until the next meeting. November Meeting was adjourned at that time
as only three members were present due to the Holiday and with the
upcoming holiday in December it was decided that we would convene in
January.

Superintendent’s Report

A. Trees
   Ann Thaxter had spoken to the Affordable Tree Co.’s owner, Jim Fowler, and he
looked over the Cemetery grounds with Ann and suggested or ear marked some
limbs and trees that needed to be taken care of. His charge is $500. per day. With
Affordable Tree as well as hiring Tyler Weagle to grind up some stumps, Ann
estimated that $5000 would take care of the tree and stump concerns on the
current Cemetery foot print.

B. Request to remove cremains :
   Ann reported that unsuccessful attempts had been made to locate the requested
ashes on the Johnson lot. Ann was to review the plot and let Beth Wiles know
what was available for future burial cremains. Beth Wiles volunteered to discuss
with family (Beth’s relative making the request to transfer cremains to another lot
to allow room for family members) and report back to the committee.

C. Sell back lot- Brimberg
   After much discussion it was decided to report to the Brimberg estate, based on
markers, what part was available to sell back

D. Sweet/ Ross Lot
   See Information under Old Business.
3. Old Business

A. Dan Lynch

No word from Dan Lynch on a report from his infrared study of possible space available in the Chebeague Cemetery. Based on no communication it was decided that Gail will contact the State of Maine Cemetery Association and see if they have some suggestions on what other Cemeteries have done to obtain this type of information.

B. Donna Damon’s initial draft of policy to use family plot

Committee reviewed Donna Damon’s draft of this policy. See separate paper marked Item #1 Committee added as another source of public notice “island bulletin boards in various island locations “. It was also decided that if an appeal was necessary all parties would meet with the Cemetery committee and if the issues were not resolved the next step would be for those parties in conflict to seek legal action.
Superintendent will get back to Carol Fuller and explain what the procedure will be for her request based on the final draft of the policy being written. We are in hopes to have the policy completed very soon so we may post this specific request by spring.

C. Ron Romano visit recap.

Ron Romano came to Chebeague via Linda Grant to review the Golf Course cemetery as well as the Chebeague Island Cemetery. Mr. Romano has done a lot of research on Grave Stone carving and has published a book “Early Grave Stones of Southern Maine” His interest has been in the carver Bartlett Adams, who opened a shop on Exchange Street in Portland Maine in 1800. In review of some of the stones he described the way to identify the stone carver with a particular “arch and shoulders makeup of the stone “.Mr. Romano believes that there are some stones here on the island that were carved by the apprentices of Bartlett Adams and was particularly taken with the stone in the field owned by Leila Bisharart. Mr. Romano is also a good source to demonstrate how to properly clean stones. It is hopeful that the Cemetery Committee can collaborate with other organizations and invite Mr. Romano to speak on the Island this coming summer.

4. New Business

A Budget FY 2017: Margery Stratton, Town administrator joined our meeting to review our budget. Please see Item #2 Work sheet with noted revisions.

To Do: Gail Miller will contact the Maine Cemetery Assoc. and ask if they can suggest other resources to review Chebeague Cemetery for possible available space.