

New Braintree Historical Commission
New Braintree Cemetery Commission
Minutes of March 20, 2024 Joint Meeting

Called to order at 3:37 p.m.

Present: Deb Morrison, Marjie Wissiup, Julie Rousseau - Historical Commission
Jennifer Pollard - Historian
Bob Glidden, Les Miller - Cemetery Commission

We invited the Cemetery Commission (CC) members to join us to discuss some questions we have about the town cemeteries

Deb gave some Cemetery information files to Les.

Deb reported to CC that we have cleaned The Church Cemetery and Southeast gravestones and next in line is the West Road cemetery. Deb reported that Les has purchased the product D-2 for the HC to use for cleaning stones. Wet and Forget can also be used and can be purchased at Lowe's, Klem's, and Walmart. We are cleaning stones 75 years and older.

CC reported they have lots of plot cards (mostly of Evergreen) and maps.

Deb reported that the inventories of each cemetery have been done and inventory cards have been started.

Bob said a book on the Church Cemetery was done by Person Monument in the late 1970's or early 1980's. (It is a loose leaf with a greenish/gray cover).

Deb asked how to number the inventory lists. CC went over their number system with Deb. Bob said each lot has 4 cement pins, 2 in front and 2 in back. Deb will give the CC copies of the inventory sheets.

Jennifer looked up cemeteries in Jeff Fiske's History Book page 185. Charles Hoar left money in 1965. Deb asked if there are any grants for restoring stones. Les reported he asked Auditor Renee Gregoire about perpetual care accounts. Les said he told Renee that she should talk to town treasurer, Janet Pierce, to put money into an account where it can be used. Les said that Janet stated "State law says you can't touch them." Bob said that somewhere along the line all the perpetual care account money went into the General Account. Plot and burial fee payments are made to the Town of New Braintree and goes into the General Account funds. Marjie looked up in the 2022 Annual Report that there is \$85,741.68 in the Trust Fund Income. CC (also includes Parks & Rec) Town Budget Request for fiscal year 2024 if \$16,000.00 and could use money in this account for restoration and repair of stones.

Deb asked CC if they would like a copy of the workshop guidelines we received from Tama Conde.

Deb asked about the granite taken out of the Webb gravesite that is located on the right side of Southeast cemetery. Les feels the granite is town property because the cemeteries are town property. (Deb and Jennifer both stated that the plots belong to the family, not to the town, including the granite. Amended to minutes on 4/4/24). Deb said the Historical Commission would like to see the granite put back around the Webb grave.

We thanked Bob and Les for joining us.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Rousseau, Secretary
New Braintree Historical Commission