

**HANCOCK CEMETERY TRUSTEES**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 2, 2016,**

**Attendees:** Mary Garland, Sandy Weston, Kurt Grassett, John Hayes.

**Call to Order:** At 2:05 PM Chair Hayes called the meeting to order.

**Minutes Accepted:** Upon motion by Hayes, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved and accepted.

**Kurt's Departure:** Kurt announced that he will be giving up the position of Sexton at the end of 2016. Of course he will be sorely missed by the Trustees. After a discussion on a replacement, we all agreed that the role would best be suited for the new head of the DPW. Kurt estimates that the job requires about 40 hours a year. John has scheduled a meeting with the Selectboard for November 7 at 4:45 PM to discuss.

**Current Condition of Cemeteries:** It was determined that all the cemeteries and gravestones in all 3 cemeteries were in good shape with one exception. A large pine tree recently came down into Norway Plain cemetery. Fortunately no damage occurred. Kurt has alerted the Highway Department who will clean things up. We will walk all the cemeteries in the spring to assess any winter damage.

**Row Markers:** We've decided to have John Kaufhold take a look at the current markers in Pine Ridge and get his suggestions for replacement and cost.

**Trees along Rte. 123:** When we removed the large pine trees last year it left a gaping visual hole. We determined it would take at least 3 varied crabapple trees to fill in the gap. We will talk to the Common Commissioners to seek their advice and help in determining the cost.

**Kepner Stone:** Kurt will check to see if John Kaufhold has put the date of death on Mr. Kepner's stone.

**New Cremation Cemetery:** After a discussion on where we now stand with the new cremation cemetery on the land donated by the Amidon's, it was decided that in order to start the project, we would begin by asking the town to start a reserve fund for this specific purpose and to contribute \$10,000 per year for 5 years. We estimated that the project would cost in the vicinity of \$50,000 to grade, loam, seed, put in roads, etc. We would go to Town Meeting in March of 2017 with this proposal.

**Budget for 2017:** Kurt has agreed to put together the 2017 budget. Items that would affect the budget are as follows: the County is no longer offering work crews which was a very cost effective way to keep our cemeteries clean and neat. Kurt suggested we hire a local landscape firm to pick up this task. In addition, Kurt suggested we consider purchasing a large leaf collector whose cost could be shared by the town and the Trustees.

**Next meeting:** we've scheduled our next meeting to review the budget on December 7, 2016 at 2PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 3 PM.

Respectfully submitted by John Hayes, Chair.

