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**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Cemetery Trustees**

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BROOKLINE, NH 03033-0360**

<http://www.brooklinenh.us>

***Brookline Cemetery Trustees
Minutes
September 23, 2020***

***Meeting held via Zoom
per Governor Sununu's Executive Order 2020-4
and Emergency Orders #12 and #24***

Present:

Brian Rater, chair
Ann Somers, secretary
Ann Webb, member

Also present:

Mike Wenrich, DPW Director
Tad Putney, Town Administrator

The meeting began at 6:34 pm. Due to a Zoom-access conflict it was constrained to end before 7:15 p.m. Participants noted their locations and the presence/absence of others, and votes were taken by roll call. There was no public in attendance.

The minutes from September 15th were approved as written, Brian, Ann S and Ann W all voting Yes.

Brian noted that we are governed by Rules and Procedures, and should refer in the future to *rules* rather than *policies*.

Pet burial rule

We approved (Brian-Y, Ann S-Y, Ann W-Y) the following addition to the Rules:

Under **IV. Interments**, add **G. Pet ashes**: *Pet ashes may be included along with human remains at the discretion of the Sexton and/or the Cemetery Trustees. There will be no separate burials for pets.*

Rules and Procedures updates

Tad will forward to Ann S a working copy of the Rules and Procedures, which Ann S will edit to reflect the above and decisions made during the course of transfer to our new Sexton, and will then return to Tad. At Mike's request, at our next meeting we will discuss minimum-salable-lot sizes.

Budget

We voted to request \$18,000 for our operating budget, maintaining the plan put in place in recent years. (Brian-Y, Ann S-Y, Ann W-Y) Items that will likely fit within the budget include removing a pine tree weakened by a woodpecker hole, continuing an annual roadway gravel maintenance plan, and seeking professional help to re-shape three small damaged maple trees for a healthy future. We do have some funds available in addition to the budget. We discussed plans for fencing at Pine Grove and North Cemetery.

North Cemetery update

Based on a map hung at Town Hall, the missing marker on a tomb has been discovered to be that of Deacon Thomas Bennet (no dates given). **Ann W will follow up with Greg D'Arbonne;** the original intent behind the offer to replace it was to ensure that all Veterans' graves are identified and have flag holders/flags.

Lakeside Cemetery update

The fallen tomb has been re-set, significant pruning of overhanging branches has been done. **Mike would like to have any information possible about mapping/grave locations. Brian will check with Jerry Farwell about a book he believes exists for Lakeside burials.**

Pine Grove Cemetery update

We agreed to move forward on finishing the fencing at Pine Grove. **Tad will talk with Jerry about materials available, and will put the project out for bids to complete.**

Cemetery Records update

Judy Cook has transcribed data (names/dates/locations) from old maps as well as a historical compilation of all grave marker inscriptions from Brookline's cemeteries in 1941 (by Duren and Archambeault) into the Word files secured and updated from the Farwell office, and has shared that update with Ann S.

Mapping, maintenance and marker-rubbing agenda items were postponed to the next meeting.

Tad noted that the Cemetery Trustees have become firmly established, and he will be stepping away from regular involvement.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm. The next meeting has been scheduled for October 8th, by Zoom at the preference of the Trustees.

Minutes submitted by Ann C. Somers
Approved 10/8/2020