

Pelham Cemetery Commission, April 10, 2018

Present: Norman Page, Cleon (Buzzy) Booth. Norm called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the February 13 meeting were APPROVED. The March 13 meeting was cancelled due to the weather.

On February 14, the Commission had AGREED on a spot for John Bardzik to place a stone and for two future cremation burials at the back of the Harkness Cemetery.

The Commission accepted a form for the sale of a lot to John and Katherine Bardzik to be signed and delivered to him before the next meeting.

Renata Pienkawa and Arnie Rosenbach of 168 Heatherstone Rd., Amherst asked to buy a lot in the Pelham Valley Cemetery. Her son attended the Pelham Elementary School, She taught there, and Arnie does the trails for the Buffam Falls area. It was explained that the cemeteries are for Pelham Residents only, and that it would take a special vote to consider the sale. They agreed to attend the next meeting with all members present to consider the request.

There being no other business, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 8:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully,
Norm Page

Pelham Cemetery Commission, May 8, 2018

Present: Norman Page, Cleon (Buzzy) Booth, Scott Barton. Norm called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the April 10 meeting were APPROVED.

The Commission met with Tim and Gwen Whalen, 3 Pine Tree Circle, who inquired about green burials, as well as a possible plot in the Arnold Cemetery. The Commission told the Whalens that, for all intents and purposes, the Arnold Cemetery is closed for lack of any maps and the assumption that it is full to capacity; and also that green burials were about to be discussed by the Commission. Matter pending.

The Commission met with Renata Pienkawa and Arnie Rosenbach of 168 Heatherstone Rd., Amherst, who presented a list of the many ways in which the couple has been involved in Pelham over the years, and asked for a waiver from the general policy restricting cemetery lot sales to Pelham residents. They indicated openness to a cremation plot. Without committing, the Commission agreed to look for potential cremation sites at Pelham Valley. Matter pending.

Scott noted an article in that morning's Daily Hampshire Gazette insert on the subject of green burials, and agreed to contact Jack Fair of Wildwood Cemetery, Amherst, to learn of issues we might consider. Other discussion involved possible future acquisition of land for more burials.

Buzzy reported that he had sold a lot in Pelham Valley to Audrey Clark for her husband Don, at the end of a row, for one grave only (possible future cremation), \$200.

Scott reported delivering the signed agreement to John and Kay Bardzik for a cremation plot in Harkness, \$100.

Norm noted the current status of mowing and had the signed warrants for payments mostly for work last fall.

There being no other business, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 9:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 13, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully,
Scott Barton

Pelham Cemetery Commission, June 12, 2018

Present: Norman Page, Cleon (Buzzy) Booth, Scott Barton. Norm called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

The minutes of the May 8 meeting were APPROVED.

The Commission discussed issues related to green burials; the lack of easily available space at Pelham Valley due to wetland-designated conflicts; the boundaries of Cook-Johnson; and how to decide on plot prices if space was available for non-Pelham residents. Scott agreed to check the assessors map for Cook-Johnson and the status of the trust fund.

It was AGREED to meet on Monday, June 18 at 4:30 p.m. at Pelham Valley to explore a possible area devoted to cremation only, and then move to Cook Johnson to explore possible green burial locations.

There being no other business, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 8:45 p.m..

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully,
Scott Barton

Pelham Cemetery Commission, July 17, 2018

Present: Norman Page, Cleon (Buzzy) Booth, Scott Barton. Norm called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the June 12 meeting were APPROVED.

The Commission discussed details of a possible cremation-only area at Pelham Valley, including possible dimensions being 2'x2'; flat marker only; and in general, two sets of cremains per plot.