

Town of Wiscasset  
Adhoc Cemetery Committee  
Meeting Minutes from 12 July 2021

Present: Dennis Simmons (Town Manager), Sarah Whitfield, (Selectboard liason), Peter Wells, Loretta Morse-Leighton, Steve Christiansen, Anthony Rauseo, Becky Applin

(Note: At the July 6 Selectboard meeting the resignations submitted by Judy Flanagan and David Sawyer were accepted. They will be missed on this committee.)

Motion by Anthony, 2nd by Loretta to accept (5-0) the 21 June 2021 minutes with two corrections. Correction of meeting time and spelling of Steve's surname were made.

Old business:

3a. By-laws - chose to discuss at a later time.

3b. Ancient Cemetery fence - Peter gave the committee his presentation on various options for design and materials which also included ballpark pricing. The boundary of the cemetery is approximately 2,000 feet with 508 feet of that being fenced. The committee discussed various aspects including ADA compliance, the archway, steps and plantings. Sarah will check with MMA in reference to ADA. The current cemetery rules and regulations do not allow for planting of trees or shrubs. There was discussion on what funds would be used and the process for bidding the projects. The fence and installation would be paid from perpetual care monies. Any other improvements, including an archway, steps, benches, plantings are not covered by this fund. Monies would need to come from the sale of cemetery lots. There are monies set aside now to cover the fence but a Town vote would be needed to use funds from the sale of lots. The project could be bid out as one project, fence and other improvements or as two projects, fence and then other improvements. Peter suggested that one bid for all might make the project run smoother. Even with one bid the monies would come from two sources. Due to contractor and material availability and the bidding process it would probably be the Spring of 2022 before work could be done. Sarah conveyed that there will be a special town meeting in August. She will confirm the date and also confirm how far in advance the committee would need to have a recommendation to the Selectboard for this project. If the Board agreed on the use of lot funds an article could be put on this warrant to allow the use. The committee decided to look over Peter's handouts and come back to the next meeting with solid ideas for design and materials. If the committee can agree and vote on recommendations for the Selectboard Peter will go to the Board meeting on July 20th with the committee's recommendation.

3c. Visiting cemeteries. Anthony handed out a list he put together showing the 5 cemeteries with addresses that the committee had agreed upon to visit. Anthony estimated it would take about 3 hours to visit all 5 at once. Discussion was had about visiting cemeteries one at a time or all at one time. Motion by Anthony, 2nd Loretta to visit the Ancient Cemetery at 5 p.m. on July 19. This will begin the regularly scheduled meeting. Note: After the fact the Town Manager clarified that anytime there is a quorum of a committee together that would be considered a meeting and needed to be posted in advance.

3d. Sarah will check with the office in reference to having the cemetery location map laminated, including a second copy for the library.

New business:

Becky will be away for the July 19 meeting. Loretta will chair this meeting.

The first September meeting falls on a holiday and therefore needed to be discussed. Motion Peter, 2nd Anthony to have only one meeting in September which will be held on the 20th.

As this committee doesn't have a fixed secretary Peter has volunteered his wife, Terri to take notes at the July 19th meeting.

Motion by Anthony, 2nd Loretta to adjourn for the evening.

Votes:

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| 1. Motion Anthony, 2nd Loretta to accept minutes.                          | 5-0 |
| 2. Motion Anthony, 2nd Loretta to visit the Ancient Cemetery on July 19th. | 5-0 |
| 3. Motion Peter, 2nd Anthony to have only 1 committee meeting in September | 5-0 |
| 4. Motion Anthony, 2nd Loretta to adjourn.                                 | 5-0 |