

**Town of Wiscasset
Cemetery Committee**

MINUTES

April 4, 2022

1. Present: Peter Wells, Terri Wells, Becky Applin, Mark Light, Steve Christiansen, Loretta Morse-Leighton and Sarah Whitfield (Selectboard Liaison)

Anthony Rauseo resigned, and the Selectboard Committee accepted his resignation at a meeting in April 2022. Additionally, Terri Wells submitted her resignation letter, and it also was accepted. However, Terri has agreed to continue to be the Committee's Secretary until the June 6 meeting. The Committee members willing to proceed were encouraged to fill out their papers.

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 by Becky Applin.

2. A motion to accept the December 6, 2021 Minutes was made by Peter Wells and 2nd by Loretta Morse-Leighton.

3. Old business:

3a) The Ancient Cemetery fence bids were sent out again. The plans included an aluminum fence along with a steel fence. Both fence materials would be acceptable since the finish that was specified is extremely durable and comes with a 20year guarantee. The aluminum fence will have open pickets along the top while the steel fence will have a top horizontal rail with no open pickets. We are hoping to receive bids at the first Selectboard meeting in May. It is still competitive for materials, but it would be ideal for a Fall project.

The arch/entryway has not gone out to bid yet. Peter is still working on plans and bid specifications and hopes to put it out to bid soon. A Landscape Company would do the arch/entryway, as it is custom work, which would include the steps, arch, grading, etc.

3b) Becky has been unable to find the cemetery location map but she will continue to look and bring this to the next meeting.

3c) Sarah will email all committee members the Cemetery lot sales form for input. She will then bring this completed form to the next meeting.

4. New business:

4a) Becky: update cemetery location map.

4b) Sarah: review the updated Wiscasset cemetery lot sales form.

4c) It would be ideal to have seven members on the Cemetery Committee. Is anyone else interested? Nominate a new Secretary for the Committee.

4d) Becky and Peter met with Dennis Simmons to talk to him about having a perimeter survey done at the Ancient Cemetery. Dennis agreed that it would come from the Perpetual Care fund, and he will contact the surveyor to schedule the work. The cost will be approximately \$2400-\$2800 for a survey. We need to have an entire perimeter survey performed to determine the exact property line locations. The cost for this survey will come out of the Perpetual Care account since this is a maintenance issue. Basically, we need to determine what trees are on the cemetery's property and the abutting property since many of them are dead and potentially could fall and damage some of the headstones. Peter recommended that the corners be staked for any future work.

Peter shared pictures of a gravestone that was hit by snow from a snowplow. Steve described how some of the stones were repaired. We need to talk to Ted about a plan to fix some of the headstones.

4e) We discussed attending the Alfred Conference but to also contact MOCA to interest them to come to Wiscasset for restoration work on our gravestones. We thought we could decide in the Fall about restoration and attending a meeting to learn how to clean and fix the stones as treatments are different for different types of stones. We might be able to use our financial resources to clean the stones.

Mark motioned to adjourn at 6:55, Steve 2nd the motion.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, June 6, at 6pm. We all agreed to skip our May 2 meeting, as many members were unable to attend. Peter motioned to accept this motion and Loretta 2nd the motion. (6-0)

Terri Wells, Secretary