



Greenwood Cemetery

TOWN OF WESTON CEMETERY COMMITTEE
Commission Room at Town Hall
Minutes of November 4, 2009

Present: Richard Wolf, Pam Bochinski, Hal Mathews, Stewart Pearl, Benjamin Hume; Margaret Wirtenberg; Mr. Hasenaur (40 November Trail); John Conte, Town Engineer

The meeting was called to order by Chair. Richard Wolf at @7:35pm.

Minutes of the October 26, 2009 meeting were approved (Pearl, Hume).

PROPERTIES REVIEW DISCUSSION

Town Engineer John Conte reported on the status of five (5) properties appearing to be the best candidates, from the list provided by the Committee, for a Town Cemetery.

Norfield Road (22-6)

Too close to high volume town well - rules required 200' distance from a normal residential well of 50gpm.

Jarvis Military Academy

This property, just under 2 acres, has a few drawbacks. Septic system might have to be replaced or removed as would the "summer kitchen" building (in the Historic District). Mr. Hume asked about the 2004 Report that indicated a "38 year" limit for new grave sites. Usable amount for cemetery might be $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre. 2004 Report suggested revising wall to accommodate urns.

November Trail

After review by the Town Attorney, reported Engineer Conte, it was found that the wording of the deed was "reserved for" park and playground use. This phrasing does not rule out use for a town cemetery, in Town Attorney's view. Before any further discussion about this 4 acre site, it would be necessary to go to Planning and Zoning as well as the Selectmen. However, when, at the request of a member of the public, the Committee was polled, all suggested that this property was not truly suitable, and although it passed the qualification of size and town ownership, did not have the best

immediate access to traffic that might be looking for the “town cemetery” and after the discussion, the November Trail parcel was removed from the list of town properties for public review on Nov. 18.

Moore Property

The outgoing administration does not favor going further with this site.

CONCLUSION: There are really only 4 town owned sites that can realistically be discussed on November 18th (the date for an “Open Discussion” with the general public and invited members of relevant Boards and Commissions) at 7:30pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

1. Jarvis Military Academy
2. Moore (“Lord’s Highway East” section)
3. Fromson-Strassler
4. Lachat - based upon the possibility that the Lachat heirs might agree to modification of the language for use of the property, and also, if that first hurdle were overcome, the Nature Conservancy might agree to “splitting” the property - fields area to the Town, woods to the Conservancy.

It was requested that efforts be made to have the Town TV channel show the “open meeting” live.

MEETING AGENDA NOV. 18

The agenda might look something like this: meeting begins at 7:30pm, Committee gathers at 7pm for final preparations and set up.

1. Introduction (of members of the Cemetery Committee as well as those town officials and others who are in attendance).
2. History: photos, maps and background studies; need for “title blocks” indicating which photos are of which properties
 - a. Sites review of 10 properties this Committee visited (from the 33 properties total [brief - located on town-wide map]).
 - b. Previous Committee reports: 2004 Fromson-Strassler cemetery site and business plan; other work from other Cemetery Committees.
3. Public involvement contributions
4. Future actions (i.e. survey) needed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Wirtenberg
Acting Sec’y

