

OLDE ANDOVER BURYING GROUND COMMITTEE
September 28, 2017 Minutes

Attendees: Mike Donnelley, Steve Fish, Mike Kurdzo, Cathy Palazzi, Bob Post,
Maria Tulman
Absent: Megan Buswell
Guest: John Handfield

Mike Donnelly called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with pledge to flag.

Additions to Agenda: No Additions or Deletions. Mike D. asked secretary to send letter to Megan asking her to resign so that he could appoint Bob Post as a permanent member.

No Public Speak.

Approval of June 29 meeting minutes: Bob Post and Steve Fish. Passed

Reports:

Chair/Historian:

Mike D. said he had researched the family trees of people buried in cemetery. This amounted to approximately 300 people and 6000 in the family tree. He wanted to know how to preserve this information for future. Steve Fish volunteered to meet with Mike D. and see how best to save information (i.e. external drive or thumb drive)

Treasurers Report:

Mike D. gave the report to Maria to report. Mike turned bill into town hall to be paid for five gravestones that had been repaired. The cost was \$2555. leaving a balance of \$5.00 in the budget. Mike asked Maria if there would be a grant available for next year and Maria said after numerous calls to OPM to inquire there had been no answer. She will keep on top of it and report to the committee if the grant becomes available for 2018.

Old Business:

Stone Realignment:

Mike K. reported he and his committee - Steve Fish, and Bob Post, and volunteers John Handfield, Tom Rimsa, Carol and Vini Zujewski joined Kurdzo's team to help realign 28 stones at this time. The committee will meet on October 3 at 4:00 p.m. to realign more. Stones. John Handfield said he would gladly help. Mike Kurdzo said at first they had to figure out the best way possible to realign these stones. Once this was accomplished the realigning went much faster. Mike Kurdzo and his committee are very pleased with what has been taking place during the summer.

Mike Kurdzo made a motion to move the sign near stone wall where it would be better viewed. Seconded by Bob Post – approved. Mike D. said he would take the sign down during the winter weather.

Beautification:

Maria Tulman and Joan Foran watered flowers during the summer. Maria she went every day and one day a gentleman was walking through the cemetery and mentioned to Maria it was well taken care of and looked beautiful.

New Business:

i. Mike D. discussed his plans for the Sunday, October 22nd presentation of “The Spirits of Two Old Mansions:”, and asked committee if we wanted to involve the Historical Society. Steve Fish replied absolutely since they handle the facts for the town and have a list of followers and Scott Yeomans could notify these people to attend. Cathy said she would be glad to handle the light refreshments and involve committee and ask Dorothy Yeomans to help as well. Bob Post said he can bring mulled cider and Maria will bake her famous cookies. Cathy will provide treats and black and white decorations in keeping with the theme of our presentation. This should be a free event for the town and encourage the Historical Society to bring their maps, books, etc. to set up a table and sell what they can. Cathy said Scott Yeomans had presented an interesting program about the railroad in Andover and Willimantic. Scott had asked the AOBGC to provide refreshments and Maria and Cathy had done so, as well as, Dorothy Yeomans. Great presentation and turnout.

Mike D. thanked his committee for their dedication to the Cemetery Committee Project.

ii. Stone Cleaning Mike K. said he would do stone cleaning next year.

iii. Winter Activities- Mike Kurdzo said stones can be realigned from now into November until ground freezes.

Fund Raising:

The fund raising committee Steve Fish, Bob Post and Maria Tulman will meet and discuss their ideas of raising money to help pay for future stone repairs. Steve Fish wanted to know why we are raising money and what will it be used for. Mike Donnelly said stones were uprooted, needed repairing, and there were 19 stones of which five had been fixed at this point. The average cost of repairing one stone is \$750. If we are able to get the grant this will help repair several of the remaining stones.

Next meeting is October 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:20 p.m. by Bob and Mike K. Approved.

Respectfully Submitted

Cathy Palazzi

Catherine Palazzi, Secretary