

Owls Head Cemetery Committee

Meeting on 2/21/23

Present: Bill Gay, Mike Voncannon, Heather Almquist, Lea Carver & Walter Guptill (via phone)

Budget

1. Cemetery signs - pending. Frank Ross will make 8 (aluminum) for town cemeteries that currently do not have a sign
2. CRA account used for conservation projects, etc. has a balance of \$5,315.
3. Mike will meet with the current and past town treasurers to figure out the Cemeteries/Gen. Expense account. There are 3 cemetery expenses which are not listed and several debits which are unclear.

Update on transcriptions

1. Based on old Burpee Funeral Home burial records at the Rockland Historical Society, 73 new records were found for folks buried in town without headstones/markers. They have been added to our transcriptions/burial documents.
2. We need access to Burpee records 1940-date
3. LHC to research South Thomaston records for more unknown burials.
4. Approximate page count of the updated transcription/genealogy book is 122 (61 if double sided), not counting the index.

Flags

We have plenty, especially if we are taking them in promptly after holidays. For consistency, the medallions and flags should be placed on the right side (facing) of each veteran headstone or marker.

Veteran List

1. Heather has made a searchable database available on the town website. It is not complete yet, but it is searchable by name, cemetery, branch of military or conflict.
2. It was suggested we notify the selectmen about the Veteran database.

Digital monument & cemetery assessment forms (Heather created these)

Need to try them in the field (they work well). Heather will make summary sheets listing how many stones need conservation in each cemetery so that we can assess priority of projects, etc.

Cemetery clean-up

Holiday decorations need to be removed from Ash Point & Evergreen. This will be done in the next few weeks when weather permits, by committee members.

Merriman Cemetery/Abandoned Cemetery procedure

No update from attorney Paul Harrell - LHC e-mailed him on 2/21/23 asking about progress.

Owls Head (Airport) Cemetery

1. Meeting on March 9th to discuss the possible sale of the cemetery to the town.
2. Cemetery capacity - current plan is for 60 cremains & 100 burials right now but there is much more space.
3. Purchasing the cemetery would likely mean more lots would be sold, making a sexton necessary.

Sleeper Cemetery

Birchmont house was sold - new owners are aware of the cemetery. Mary will give new owner OHCC contact info.

September conservation project at Holiday Beach (part II)

Walter will call Clean Woods about a porta-potty for the project.

Respectfully submitted by Lea Carver