

MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
March 4, 2008

A regular meeting of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Cemetery Committee was called to order at Portsmouth City Hall, Conference Room A, at 3:30pm on March 4, 2008

The following committee members were in attendance: Jennifer Marcelais; June Rogers; Judy Nerbonne, Dick Adams, Donald Twombly, advisory member Roger Syphers, and visitors John How and Priscilla Paisley.

The minutes of the meeting of November 27, 2007 were approved with a correction to the meeting date.

Treasurer's Report

David Ewing was not in attendance but sent a summary for the treasurer's report. The committee still has a good balance and hasn't drawn any money at all yet from the 2007 fund allocation.

Landscaping/Beautification

June Rogers requested we apply for the \$500 grant from the Garden Club again, which was approved. Judy proposed we could use the funds to add cobblestones around the signs in Point of Graves.

Education

The proposal for a 1 day gravestone restoration demonstration and workshop was approved. Gravestone Restorer Jonathan Appell was been approved to conduct the workshop and the city has approved the use of our funds to pay for him and supplies.

Plans and ideas for the workshop were discussed. Questions were raised including whether to charge admission and what cost, whether there would be any liability to the city, if bathroom facilities could be provided in some way, all of which would be further looked into by members of the committee. More details are to be gathered from Jonathan Appell about the activities to be involved in the workshop as well.

Jenn Marcelais and Judy Nerbonne will create an invitation to send announcing the workshop. June Rogers will write up a press release to submit to local papers and media.

New Business

Priscilla Paisley discussed possible projects for her organization, The Elks, to become involved in on a volunteer basis.

Establishing a cemetery cleanup day was proposed. Priscilla Paisley said she'd check with the Elks club members and contact the local schools to find participants. Judy Nerbonne will check with the Friends of the South End Committee to see what day they are having

their annual cleanup day so we might schedule one for Pleasant St. and Point of Graves around the same time. Another day would be selected for cleanup of North and Union Cemeteries.

Donald Twombly asked the committee to change the meeting day to Thursdays.

Meeting adjourned 4:45. Next meeting is Thursday, April 17, 2008 at 3:30.

Jenn Marcelais
Secretary