

## **The Middletown Springs Old Cemetery Task Force – Official Meeting Minutes: June 26, 2017 at Middletown Springs Town Office**

The first meeting of the Cemetery Commission was convened after the Selectboard appointed its three members, John Arsenault, Nora Rubinstein and David Wright, at a meeting on June 22, 2017.

The Meeting was convened at 7:20 p.m. by Acting Chair John Arsenault  
Attending: John Arsenault, Nora Rubinstein and David Wright

Election of Officers:

- Chair: John Arsenault (Nominated by Nora Rubinstein; unanimously selected)
- Assistant Chair: David Wright (Nominated by Nora Rubinstein; unanimously selected)
- Secretary: Nora Rubinstein (Nominated by John Arsenault; unanimously selected)

The next meeting will be scheduled with notices posted on a date TBD

Discussion included the following:

- prior surveys of the old cemetery. These included one by Margaret (Peggy) Jenks dated 1983 and two others that are in the records of the Historical Society. One was conducted by Herb Davidson and Lydia Taylor under the auspices of the Historical Society, and the other dates to sometime in the 1930's. David will find these surveys and John will scan them for Committee members
- the need to survey the existing cemetery to document the location of graves and the headstones that mark them or that may have been misplaced.
- techniques for creating a base map of the cemetery and coding it for condition information and recording locations of graves. Prior surveys may not have complete mapping information or inscriptions.
- The identification of techniques for conservation and restoration of gravestones and for recording and exhibiting information for graves and stones that are too far degraded for restoration
- The identification of restoration professionals who can help guide us in best practices
- The identification of volunteers or others who could be drawn in to help with needed work
- The development of a priority system for staging needed work on the cemetery's graves and stones
- The need for a clear set of recommendations for the Selectboard to be prepared after work is underway

Committee members will do a walk-through of the cemetery on June 27 at 9:00 a.m.

The committee will next meet with the Selectboard on July 27, 2017

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.