MONTAGUE CEMETERY COMMISSION
Monthly Minutes
November 17, 2025

This meeting is being conducted via Zoom.

Meeting convened at 6:20PM.

1. Roll Call: Judith Lorei, Annie Levine, Jamie Fuller, Jamie Simpson, Mary Kay Mattiace, Sexton Amber Korby

2. Minutes: Judith moved to approve the minutes as corrected; seconded by Jamie F. Unanimously approved.

3. Report Updates:

a. Cemetery Sexton

Amber reported a number of local residents currently showing an interest in Highland Woods.

b. Volunteer committee

Mary Kay - no report

c. Cemetery partner reports

Judith reported that the planned work at Dry Hill has been completed. Dry Hill volunteers, Burke and Maria Legere, have finished the Dry Hill map which will be posted online.

Jamie S. reported the Path of Reflection is in relatively good shape. Minor improvements will be addressed in the Spring.

Jamie F. notes there is nothing new to report at Old South. The low hanging branches belong to trees on the adjacent property. Judith and Amber will introduce themselves to the appropriate staff at MGLT and discuss any abutter issues. MGLT has just acquired the property that boarders Old South on the West.

It has come to the Commission's attention that some mowing at Fairway is being done outside of the cemetery's property line.

Next Spring the Commission will mark the boundaries of the cemetery.

Mary Kay reports no new issues at West Chestnut Hill, East Mineral, or Highland Lawn cemeteries. Judith, Amber, and Mary Kay will meet at Highland in the next two weeks to begin a process of correcting some of the more egregious violations to the Rules and Regs.

d. Cemetery project reports

i. "Friends of" research

Jamie S. continues to do research on the various aspects of forming said group as it concerns the Cemetery Commission. Judith suggests having an information session at Montague Center the library in February, both as an effort to reach out to Montague residents in general, and in particular to generate possible interest in forming a "Friends of Montague Cemeteries". Further discussion to finalize plans will occur at our next meeting.

ii. Headstone repair

Jamie F. has received an estimate for proposed work from a local repair person. Discussion followed. Jamie S. will contact another local craftsperson, requesting an estimate for the same proposed work.

4. Proposed change for December meeting

Judith will be hosting a celebratory party for Commission members and volunteers who have worked consistently with the Commission throughout the year. It will be held at her home on Wednesday, December 17th, from 4-6PM. Significant others are invited.

5. Other business

Jamie F. showed a metal grave marker that she etched with numbers to designate plots at Highland Woods.

Judith announced that the DPW will be assuming maintenance of the Town cemeteries beginning July 1, 2025. MK offered a large and heartfelt "shout out" to Judith for her tireless, steadfast, and persistent efforts in said regard.

Amber will be seeking a change in the Rules & Regs at Highland Woods regarding an exception to the current language that does not include the use of veteran markers.
We also discussed the possibility of using the Town's GIS program for mapping our cemeteries.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 5th, at the G-M Senior Center. MK will check availability with Roberta Potter.

The meeting will also be available on Zoom.

Judith moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50, seconded by Jamie S. Approved.

In Service,
Mary Kay Mattiace