

**HOPLAND CEMETERY DISTRICT**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2022**

The meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Hopland Cemetery District was called to order Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5:30pm by Trustee Cole.

**PRESENT:** Katharine Cole, Joan Norry, Yvonne Boyd, Nina Kaiser, Trustees

**PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:** None

**AGENDA AND MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** Approved Unanimously.

**ONGOING BUSINESS – REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:**

1. After a couple years of waiting through the ins and outs of the count and our legal responsibilities as trustees, we are finally starting to see some progress. An article, I wrote was posted in the Daily Journal and the Mendocino Voice. Great reactions from our Facebook page along with some donations received. We have a budget item for donations and then it'll be in our budget next round as income. I have gotten a few donations from out-of-town relatives to clean gravesites, headstones, etc.
2. I have now assembled a headstone cleaning kit, including biocide brushes, my trusty shovel and rake, and buckets.
3. Jonathan Tree Service will remove the tree on the Southeast Corner that in the phone line. Gene Murray will remove the tree down on the Northeast side, take care of the brush and make a burn pile which he has volunteered to handle at the right time. Cole will obtain the burn permit necessary.
4. We have retained a local hoplander to put a full day's work of weed, whacking and leaf removal and general cleanup. And this will give us a leg up on our next clean up days. The money was taken out as a contingencies.
5. We have renewed Cemetery agreement with the Russian River District for another year.
6. Water access: Trustee Norry agreed to meet with the Hopland Water Board regarding the leaking water line and our access. It was agreed we should have at the very least, access to a hose to properly monitor burn piles, etc.
7. We need to address the ground. Squirrels, poison pellets, shoveling in the hole, I even use Quikrete and it's filled up some holes on the other side. I don't know what to do about that or just keep doing what we're doing.
8. The Aging of the population of the resident families is adversely affecting the maintenance, or lack there of, by volunteers. Our notices of meetings at the USPS,

etc., are not reaching as many as our social media posts. Although it is clear that it will remain difficult to get volunteers to join the Board or attend Clean Up Days without some incentives.

9. Endowments: It came to my attention that for any burial, the district is to hold back a set amount (% or Set) of all interment funds towards the endowment of the cemetery. Going forward we need to set this amount. Approved: \$150 of each burial interment fee will go towards the endowment fund. 2<sup>nd</sup>/NK
10. I am still concerned regarding the cost of plots, full body and cremains. Right now, plots stand at \$1200. I believe if we can establish an osuary garden for cremains only, we will be able to offer \$300 interment fees. This does not include the gravesmens fees from Russian River. Approved: Establish a cremains only section; however, full body remain \$1200.
11. We need to officially get the word out to Hoplanders regarding the current near-capacity situation at the cemetery, the cremains options, and contact information. Perhaps a mailer to the 95449 zip code. It was suggested we get a voter registration list for local addresses, as well.
12. We have received no word from our formal request to the Board of Supervisors for a bi-annual audit in light of the high costs incurred by these audits with so little income.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:30pm at the Cemetery, weather permitting.

Meeting adjourned 6:15pm.