At a meeting of the Trustees of the Edgewood Cemetery held February 28, 2019 the following trustees were present; Chairman Tom Maffee, Vice-Chairman Doug Barker, Carl Andrade, Charlie Hall, Norman Hall, Morgan Hollis, Brian Law and Kevin Slattery. Foreman Ken Lennox was also present. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:04PM.

After reviewing the minutes of the August 2018 meeting Norman Hall moved to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by Doug Barker. The motion carried.

The Chairman reported to the Board that he along with Doug Barker and Supt. Snow met with the Mayor and staff to discuss the cemetery 2020 budget request. There were no questions asked and the meeting was rather brief.

The Supt. reported on the greenhouse renovations done by Deerfield Greenhouse Builders last summer into fall. The work had been completed to the satisfaction of the Supt. who felt that along with being more energy efficient the appearance was much improved as well. When the weather is warmer they need to return to put a cap on the ridge as rain leaks in from a few spots there.

There being very high winds earlier in the week a portion of a tree fell onto the roof of the shed at Evergreen Cemetery causing quite a bit of damage. Kevin Slattery and the Supt. will meet at Evergreen to assess the damage and determine if repairs may be done or replacement will be necessary.

An email from Trustee Richard Cullen informed the Board that since he is rarely able to attend meetings a replacement should be found for him as his term expires in March. Carl Andrade moved to accept his resignation with regrets, seconded by Norman Hall. The motion passed. Doug Barker moved to nominate Morgan Hollis to a new 5 year term. Seconded by Brian Law and was so voted. After some discussion regarding Andrew Armstrong, pastor of the First Church, Morgan Hollis moved to nominate Andrew Armstrong pending his acceptance of same. Seconded by Carl Andrade, the motion passed.
Morgan Hollis moved to elect Tom Maffee as Chairman, Doug Barker as Vice-Chairman and Norman Hall as secretary, seconded by Carl Andrade. The motion passed.

The superintendent requested the approval of an increase in the annual stipend he receives for the Suburban Cemeteries by 2% to $7,160 annually. The funding for this has been approved in the FY ‘20 budget. Carl Andrade moved to approve the annual stipend for the superintendent to $7,160. Seconded by Doug Barker. The motion passed.

Morgan Hollis gave the Board a report of the Finance Committee which had met recently. See committee’s attached minutes. Following that Morgan moved “that approximately $500,000 of the total funds of the Edgewood IMA Fund and Suburban Whitman Fund (approximately 10% of each) which are invested in stocks be liquidated and invested in TD Bank’s ETF utilizing a call option, conditioned upon confirmation that there is no liquidation and transfer fee incurred; and that approximately $1,000,000 of the total funds for the Edgewood IMA Fund and Suburban Whitman Fund (approximately 20% of each) which are invested in stocks be liquidated and reinvested with Paul Bedinger (through Sheldon) utilizing a covered call option.” Seconded by Brian Law. The motion passed.

Morgan Hollis made a motion “The Board request the Supt. to maintain records of time and expenses for all employees and the Supt. for work performed at Evergreen Cemetery to allow future calculations of costs to be reimbursed by the Whitman Fund and that simultaneously the Board pursue requesting a change in the limitations of the Whitman Fund to allow use of the income to be combined with the Edgewood Cemetery investment revenues for purposes of application towards continued expenses on all cemeteries under the control of the Board of Trustees of the Edgewood Cemetery.” Seconded by Kevin Slattery. The motion was passed.
The Supt. informed the Board that it was necessary to create new burial space as the available space was becoming limited. His thoughts were to expand the area abutting Forest St. to Ashland St. After discussion with the Board it was decided to create grave spaces along Forest St. as well as along Ashland St. to the Ashland St. gate. The Supt. was asked to have an “as built” survey of the area done and to create a tentative lot layout that could be used by the Board during a site walk at the next meeting.

The Chairman brought up the fact that there were several dead and dying trees that should be removed. Several of the Board members agreed that work needed to be done removing trees as well as trimming out dead wood. Doug Barker moved “to allow the Supt. to expend up to $15,000, using funds from the deed fund, to remove trees, stumps and dead wood.” Seconded by Carl Andrade, the motion passed.

Then Chairman reported that he thought that the doors on the Anderson Chapel needed to be refinished again. Morgan Hollis moved “to have the Supt. use necessary funds from the John Boland Trust to refinish the Anderson Chapel doors.” This was seconded by Brian Law and was passed.

The chairman asked if there was any other business to come before the board. There being none Doug Barker moved to adjourn, seconded by Norman Hall. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45PM.

A true copy attest,

Jeffrey L. Snow, acting Secretary