

**TOWN OF SWANTON**  
**CEMETERY COMMISSION**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF**

**Wednesday, December 28, 2022, 6:00 pm**  
**Town Offices**

The Cemetery Commission of the Town of Swanton met on Wednesday, December 28, 2022 at 6:00 pm. Members present were Brian Savage, Andrew Centabar and Cody Hemenway. Absent was Nicholas Brosseau. Also present were Macy Lavoie-Dupont and Lisa Meunier.

Brian Savage called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

- I. Agenda Review – The Agenda was reviewed and found to be in order with no further additions of items.
- II. Filling vacancy on the Commission due to the resignation of Gary Centabar who resigned last spring. A motion was made by Mr. Hemenway, seconded by Mr. Centabar to appoint Macy Lavoie-Dupont to fill the vacancy until Town Meeting Day on March 7, 2023 at such time as an election will be held to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. There being no further discussion, the vote was unanimous. Ms. Lavoie-Dupont was then administered the Oath of Office by Justice of the Peace, Mr. Savage.
- III. Closure of Riverside Cemetery for the winter with a tentative reopen date of April 1, 2023, weather permitting. A motion was made by Mr. Centabar, seconded by Mr. Hemenway to close Riverside Cemetery with the tentative reopen date of April 1, 2023. Ms. Meunier inquired what was meant by “close” the cemetery. Mr. Savage explained that it meant that no graves will be open and that remains and cremains will have to be placed in storage. All area funeral homes have been advised. There being no further discussion, the motion carried.
- IV. Discussion of recent damage by falling trees at Riverside. Ms. Meunier explained that due to the weight of the heavy snow in the storm of the weekend of December 17<sup>th</sup>, a large limb crash down on her parent’s monument as well as her and her husband’s causing them to be knocked off of their bases and are laying flat on the ground. She is concerned that the inscriptions could be harmed by exposure to the ground. She has attempted contact with Champlain Monuments and Mr. Savage has done as well, but as explained by Mr. Savage it is the “off season” for their business

as indicated on their website. Also, it is very difficult time between the holidays to contact many businesses. A discussion followed with Ms. Meunier showing the Commission photos of the damaged stones. Mr. Savage state he has contacted Gabree Tree Service to remove the limb, which has been done and to remove the tree. Due to this past weekend's wind storm, Gabree's expected to be very busy. Mr. Savage said at this time he will contact Gabree's to get an idea as to an estimated time they will take the tree down, have a conversation with Jeff Pignona of Champlain Monuments to get an estimated of the damage and will contact the Town's insurance carrier to see if they will be able to file a claim through them. Once this is all done, he will be contact Ms. Meunier to update her and there will be a further meeting of the Commission to discuss the course of action.

- V. Review request for a lot purchase in the Green's Corners Cemetery. Mr. Savage reported he met with Mr. Terry Smith who wishes to purchase a plot in Green Corners Cemetery. There have been lots sold there as recent as the mid-1980s and After meeting with Mr. Smith at the cemetery it appears that there maybe room available, however it is really unknown if there are unmarked graves or not but Mr. Savage did say that there were no depressions in the ground. I was decided that in the Spring the Commission will meet at the Cemetery with Mr. Smith to review and discuss the sale with him. It was the consensus that if a plot is sold it will be the LAST in that cemetery.
- VI Discussion of possible projects for 2023 – tabled
- VII There was no further business a motion was made by Ms. Lavoie-Dupont to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hemenway. Motion Carried, meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Savage