

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

Martin Cemetery

April 23, 2012

There was a meeting of a group of people interested in revitalizing the abandoned Martin Cemetery on Whitton Road. Present were Mayor Don Eady, Norman Eady, J. Andrew Kluge and David Brown. Absent was Reg Laventure. Staff present was Mackie J. McLaren, CAO/Clerk.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eady was asked to assume the role of Chair. He called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest by members of the group or staff.

3. MINUTES OF JANUARY 5, 2012 MEETING

Mayor Eady asked the group to review the January 5th meeting minutes.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Donations Received

David Brown reported that no donations have been received at the Municipal Office since the January meeting. He said he expected two donations of \$300.00 each to come in within the week. Norman Eady said he was aware of a donation coming in before the summer.

Remove and Repair Steel Fences

David Brown said that he and his son have removed some of the original steel fence and will remove the rest when the weather permits. They will repair the fence and reinstall it. Mayor Eady asked if the summer student and Bill Yantha could assist for a day with the reinstallation. The CAO/Clerk said that they could as the township is responsible for the abandoned cemetery.

David Brown said there is a row of cedar growing between the road and the graves that he has cut that needs to be rooted out. Andy Kluge said he would donate his tractor to rip the roots out.

Contacts

David Brown reported that he had a list of contact names and addresses that he has gathered over the past few years. Mayor Eady suggested that office staff set up a data base of the names and addresses to be used to send information. He also suggested that we have a guest book for people to sign with their address if we have a Decoration Sunday Service this year.

Norman Eady said he would like someone to determine which graves are empty and mark them on the map he and Mayor Eady picked up from the Registry Office this winter. Mayor Eady asked if the cemetery map could be laminated to preserve it and possibly mounted on cardboard/Bristol board.

Norman Eady asked if we should have a sign made. David Brown said there is a sign which states "Martin Cemetery 1837".

5. DECORATION SUNDAY SERVICE THIS SUMMER

David Brown said he had requests from relatives of people buried in the cemetery to have a Decoration Service in June. He has arranged for Rev. Lori Jenson of the Lochwinnoch Presbyterian Church to officiate at the Service. Mayor Eady asked about a date in June. The Sundays in June are 3, 10, 17 (Father's Day) and 24. The group considered June 17 as the most appropriate day.

David Brown will contact the people on his contact list and inform them of the date and to suggest they bring their own lawn chairs. Mayor Eady suggested a form letter sent to all the contacts by office staff. He said the podium from the Community Center could be used. Mackie McLaren suggested that if someone had a small generator they could use the small PA system at the Community Centre. Dave Brown said he had a generator.

Mayor Eady asked for a time for the Service. The group agreed to 2 p.m. David Brown asked about advertising in the Horton Corner and Heritage Radio. Mayor Eady said this will be done. He also said that an Order of Service would be needed to be made up. He would say a few words of welcome. He suggested someone could give a report on the improvements sought for the cemetery. Norman Eady said Reg Laventure had committed to give an oral history of the cemetery. David Brown will write up the history of the site that he knows. Mayor Eady suggested that the media be invited to cover the event. He also suggested that we could have a day in Horton when all cemeteries are open for people to visit.

6. NEWS ARTICLE – CEMETERY FACELIFT IN WESTERN ONTARIO (Better Farming April 2012)

Mayor Eady reviewed a newspaper article that Norman Eady had pulled from the Better Farming publication and Reg Laventure had copied. This article tells of a community in Arthur Township, Wellington County which came together to fix up an abandoned cemetery.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business discussed.

8. NEXT MEETING

The group agreed to meet Monday May 28 2012 at 9 am to prepare for the Decoration Service. Notice to the Members will be given a week before by office staff.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by David Brown, Seconded by J. Andrew Kluke that this meeting be adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Carried.

Mayor

CAO/Clerk