

City of Hancock

Cemetery Board of Trustees Meeting

October 8, 2019 5:00 P.M.

Members Present: Betty Boxer-Toutant, Carol Carli, Mary Pekkala,
Paul Nelson,

Sexton Steve Belo, City Clerk Mary Babcock

Guests: John Slivon, Linda and James Belote, Stephen Jukari

Items Discussed:

- The majority of the meeting consisted of a discussion of green burials. Members of the Keweenaw Green Burial Association shared information about green burials. Each cemetery has unique characteristics like its location, type of soil for digging, wood and non wooded areas, resulting in many factors having to be considered. Another factor is the Hancock Cemetery Vault which has certain requirements.
- Examples of questions related to green burials which were discussed are deaths in the winter, types of containers, depth of burial, non chemical embalming, burial markers, burial ceremony, and if the deceased having a serious communicable disease is a factor.
- Since many issues involve our local funeral directors, it was agreed that Neil Ahola and Mark Dennis will be invited to the next Cemetery meeting. We hope they can answer some of the many questions related to the possibility of creating a green burial plot

in Hancock and the use of the Vault in relationship to the burials. Our next meeting will be in March of 2020.

- Since green burials are not addressed in the cemetery by-laws, they will have to be amended if green burials are allowed.
- Sexton Steve Belo reported that the grub problem at the cemetery seems to be subsiding and we'll see how things look in the spring. He also reported that top soil and fill are all set for next spring. All equipment is in working order.

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 P.M.

Carol Carli, Member