

**New York Quarterly Meeting
Cemetery Committee Meeting
June 26, 2019**

Present: Mary Doty, Jessica Fleischer-Black, John Major, Chris Roddick, Bryan Oettel (C)

Excused: Suzanne Stout

26.6.1. We meet in the Quaker Cemetery in Prospect Park. Meeting begins at 5.45 PM with a moment of silence.

26.6.2. Everyone makes individual introductions with a short talk about what led them to serve on the committee. We all express our deep appreciation that we have such a marvelous place at which to gather.

26.6.3. The committee reviews the variety of present responsibilities and other possible functions that we might serve going forward. It is decided that each member will tackle at least one function and we'll constantly review and revise these duties as we go forward. We accept these roles:

Chris Roddick, PPA liaison;

John Major, Cemetery representative to the NYQM Facilities committee;

Suzanne Stout, Cemetery phone;

Mary Doty, Cemetery Meeting Minutes, Work Day and Open Day oversight;

Jessica Fleischer-Black, Pontem and Reservations;

Bryan Oettel, Outreach.

26.6.4. The sexton reports on his work and raises two questions for committee consideration: 1) Who is authorized to use the golf cart, and 2) Should tree climbing be allowed. Committee comes to unity on the following: That the golf cart should be used only for transportation of people with a disability that makes it difficult to get around the cemetery, and other related uses, and that we should encourage active engagement with nature but that tree climbing should be safe and only should be done with sturdy trees that avoids impacting the beauty and longevity of our trees. The sexton's report is accepted.

26.6.5. We review the reservation process and agree that we need to simplify and revise. The procedures will be discussed at the next Cemetery Committee gathering in July.

26.6.6. The Committee reviews Julia Provey's request to have a memorial stone created for her mother Lucy Sikes's plot. Julia provided a sketch of the stone that the committee agrees fits within the general guidelines. We discuss how artwork fits with Quaker simplicity and reviews a variety of other stones in the cemetery that are rather ornate. It's agreed that we need to provide make sure that clear guidelines are provided during the reservation process. The Sikes stone is approved and Julia will arrange with Bob for placement in the cemetery.

26.6.7. We review the golf cart's usage and the related storage issues, and agree that it should be raised at the upcoming NYQM summer session for further discussion.

26.6.8. Chris will speak to John Jordan to set up a walkabout and notify the committee.

26.6.9. Bryan provides a brief overview of the Pontem database and how it is presently used and possibilities for future application. Since the database is only accessible from the NYQM desktop at 15 Rutherford Place, a future session will be arranged when Kim Castaneda is in the office.

26.6.10. The committee briefly looks over the Cemetery Brochure that is available online at www.nycquakers.org. It's agreed that the members will review more extensively before the next meeting and that we'll engage as a more long-term revision process. An edition with the updated Committee members is sent to the NYQM administrator for site updating.

26.6.11. We raise the possibility of more open days for the Cemetery, and agree that we'll schedule one for the fall. Date T.K. A fall workday is scheduled for November 16, 2019, from 10-4pm.

26.6.12. The next meeting will take place on July 13, at 5.30pm at NQYM Room 1, 15 Rutherford Place.

26.6.13. The meeting closes at 7.30pm.