

Pioneer Cemetery Commission
Work Event and Meeting
May 03, 2019

The following members were present for a work event and meeting this evening: Chairperson Lee Embretson, and members Leon Dibble, Myra Voss and Bruce Collins.

The work event was at the McClelland Pioneer Cemetery located off of Hwy 52 between Garnavillo and Guttenberg. This cemetery is located in the middle of a corn and or soybean field making it accessible only when there is no crop in the surrounding field. The members spent about 45 minutes, straightening grave stones and clearing and trimming brush around the grave sites.

The official meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lee Embretson at this work site, McClelland Cemetery at 7:05 PM after the work noted above was completed. All the members that worked were present for the meeting.

Copies of the minutes from the previous meeting were distributed to each of the members and a treasurer's report was orally given. Motions were made, seconded and passed to approve both reports as presented.

Myra Voss said she received a telephone call from an individual that is willing to mow the **Eastman Cemetery**. His last name is Moran and he lives near that cemetery. Myra said she told this person that we, the commission, want to maintain this cemetery to a certain level but the budget for doing so is limited. A discussion followed with the decision made that Lee Embretson would call and discuss this with Moran, get his thoughts and then discuss with the commission before a final decision is made.

Related to the **McClelland Cemetery**, where we just worked and where we started this meeting, a discussion followed related to this cemetery. It was noted that \$500 was recently donated (November 2018) for this cemetery to the Pioneer Cemetery Commission and placed in a Pioneer Cemetery bank

account, established for just this donation and for just this cemetery, at Freedom Bank in Elkader. A discussion followed as to how we should use this money. Several ideas were discussed, one was doing something with the stone work that was once probably a wall surrounding the grave sites but that now is in tumbled pieces piled against a tree; another idea was to erect a sign along Hwy 52 indicating the name of the cemetery and where it is. It was decided that for now, that I (Bruce Collins) would work on a design and price for a sign and Lee Embretson would discuss getting permission on placement of the sign with the relevant landowners and utility companies. Both members would report back to the committee on their work and their findings before any decisions were made. Also related to this cemetery, Myra Voss would email the donor of the \$500 as a courtesy to that person about the work we did today at this cemetery.

Other Business Discussed

Related to the bank account recently set up for **McClelland Cemetery**, it was agreed that I (Bruce Collins) would follow up with the bank and with our chairperson do whatever steps necessary to have my name placed on the account as Treasurer with the bank.

Lee Embretson noted that more quick setting concrete will be needed for the fencing post and sign post that will be installed this year. He will get that.

At the **Patterson Cemetery** there is some cement work that we want to complete there.

Related to the **Schori Cemetery** in Marion Township which we visited February 18, 2018, there is fencing work to be done there but it was the general consensus that this project would be placed on hold until the fencing project is completed at the Redman Cemetery. We would use the knowledge and experience gained at Redman to determine how to proceed at Schori.

The **Redman Cemetery** fencing project will be a major project this year and it will be done when the committee members can dedicate a day or most of a

day to working the project to get a significant part of the project done then. This will occur later in the year after the busy planting season.

Related to the **King Cemetery** stones, more discussion is needed on where to place three cemetery stones. Per the minutes of our meeting on March 01, 2018, these stones were thrown in a fence line but picked up and restored by Lawrence King. Discussion needs to take place with Linda King on this.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 pm just as we were returning to the Genealogy Center in Elkader from our trip together in one vehicle from McClelland Cemetery.