

Meeting of the Deerfield, New Hampshire Cemetery Trustees

DRAFT MINUTES

October 18, 2023

Present: Rick Druckenmiller, Dana van der Bijl, Phil Bilodeau, Ron Harvey, Jenny Wellington

Citizens Present/Citizen Comments: None

Meeting called to order at **9:30 am**.

The board **voted unanimously to approve the minutes** of the **September** meeting.

Rick updated the board that **Blue Sky Landscaping took care of the following cemeteries:**

Eastman G-03	\$ 675
Prescott E-11	\$ 400
Freese Fogg E-09	\$1,750
Haynes/Currier C-08 and C-09	\$1,560
Cram C-07	\$ 390
Tennant Collins C-15	\$ 200
Woodman B-14	\$1,170

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$6,145

The board voted unanimously in September to pay first from individual trust funds with the remainder to come from the Cemetery Maintenance Expense Fund. Dana will email the details to the Trustees of the Trust Funds.

Rick presented a **quotation from Blue Sky Landscaping** to clean up the next round of neglected town owned cemeteries:

Iver Merrill B-07	\$ 780
Philbrick Merrill C-11	\$1,000
Fisk Sandhill C-16	\$2,340
Goodhue Fellowes D-23	\$1,300
Goodhue Poor Farm D-25	\$1,560
Whittier F-19	\$1,170

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$8,150

The board **voted unanimously to accept the proposal from Blue Sky Landscaping** and to pay first from individual trust funds with the remainder to come from the Cemetery Maintenance Expense Fund.

Phil reported that he has been in touch with **Hall Monument** about **straightening out monuments at Fellows-Sanborn B-12**. He will also touch base with Mr. Norcross, who has offered to donate money toward the care of the cemetery.

There was one bid submitted for the **columbarium**, and it was from **Monument Warehouse**. The amounts proposed were as follows:

Columbarium	\$ 18,200
Concrete foundation	\$ 13,800
Installation	\$ 2,500
Delivery	\$ 2,500
Total:	\$ 37,000

This price and all the specs provided were acceptable to the trustees. **The board voted unanimously to move forward with Monument Warehouse** and requested an **updated proposal including the options** of a sloped roof with four sides and an additional base, both of which will be improve the durability and aesthetics of the columbarium.

Dana presented a **list of volunteer guidelines** to the board for discussion. The agreed-upon version will be uploaded to the Cemeteries page on the town website.

The meeting paused at **10:25 am** and **all members present moved on to the French Cemetery on Candia Road**. The board checked into multiple reports of a bright pink substance on the gravestones. The substance turned out to be chalk. If the next hard rainfall does not take care of it, a trustee will go out and clean them manually.

The board then moved on to the **Old Center Cemetery on Meetinghouse Hill Road** where members discussed the **location and orientation of the columbarium** project. Photos and measurements were taken.

The meeting **adjourned at 11:10 am**.

The **next meeting will be on November 15th at 9:30 am** at the George B. White Building.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dana van der Bijl
Secretary