

Meeting of the Deerfield, New Hampshire Cemetery Trustees

DRAFT MINUTES

July 14, 2021

Present: Rick Druckenmiller, Sam White, Dana van der Bijl, Maureen Mann, Phil Bilodeau

Absent: Tina St. Peter

Meeting called to order at **9:31 am**.

Citizen Comments – None

The board unanimously **voted to accept the minutes** of the previous two meetings.

The board verified with Selectman Andy Robertson that the BOS is on board with the **grave lot pricing increase to take effect on August 1, 2021**. The price will be raised from \$200 to \$550.

Rick spoke with **Mark Young** about installing **six 3' gravel walkways in the new section of the Old Center Cemetery**. Mark estimates that this can be done for **under \$1,000**. The board voted unanimously to move forward with the project for no more than \$1,000.

Dana updated the board on **trust funds**. She **compiled a report** (for trustee use) regarding the town-owned cemeteries and forwarded copies to the cemetery trustees earlier this month. She will get started on a similar report for the remaining cemeteries. The trustees will use the information to help obtain estimates for future maintenance needs. **Rick said he will contact Blue Sky for quotes.**

Sam will get in touch with Erik and Nancy Gross to **engage the Scouts in cemetery clean-ups**. He will work with Maureen to determine which cemeteries will be first and then touch base with Dana to figure out the voucher system.

The board discussed the **budgetary changes** needed to support the increased number of town-owned cemeteries (from 6 to 29). Dana will check with John Harrington regarding the possibility of a one-time warrant article to bring the cemeteries up to standard before requesting a larger budget the following year to include regular maintenance of those properties. The board agreed that we should have **all warrant articles drafted** and ready to be checked over by the BOS **by the end of September**.

Dana contacted Heather Swanson at **DCS** to discuss the possibility of **involving DCS students** in making short documentary videos/reports about Deerfieldians buried in our town cemeteries. Heather said she would ask around and see which teachers might be interested.

Meeting adjourned at 10:58 am. The next meeting will be held at the **GB White Building on Wednesday, August 13th at 9:30 am**.

Respectfully submitted by Dana van der Bijl, Secretary