

# Meeting of the Deerfield, New Hampshire Cemetery Trustees

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## DRAFT MINUTES

**June 15, 2022**

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

**Absent:** Ron Harvey, Sam White

**Citizens Present/Citizen Comments:** None

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

The board **voted unanimously to accept the minutes** of the May meeting.

The board discussed the fact that our [contracted service company](#) (**D&J Landscaping**) did not show up to prepare the cemeteries prior to Memorial Day. **Cemetery Superintendent Mark Young** spoke to the company upon their lack of performance (he was told they were understaffed and could not handle the work at this time). The **contract was pulled from D&J Landscaping** and given to **TNT** of Deerfield.

The board discussed the **Old Center Cemetery** fence, which is in poor condition. All members of the board agree it needs to be replaced. **Rick will call three vendors for estimates**. He will also ask them about 214 South Road – **Woodman Cemetery** – where the granite wall is starting to bow out. **Dana will check trust funds availability**.

**Maureen** proposed that we should start writing **articles** periodically to raise public awareness.

There was a conversation about the future of **Dowst Cate Cemetery** and the **popularity of cremation vs. traditional burial**. Phil mentioned that there is a low spot of about 30'x30' (within the current footprint of the cemetery) that might be usable as columbarium space. **Maureen** had visited a columbarium in Concord and **will send photos** to the group. **Phil will send the group photos** of the low spot in Dowst Cate.

The state of the unmaintained town owned cemeteries was discussed in detail. Plans to evaluate fell through last month, so the list was redistributed, and it was decided that each member of the group will independently visit, photograph, and evaluate the following cemeteries before the next meeting: **John Sanborn B-13, French C-05, Cram C-07, Haynes C-08, and Currier C-09**. **Dana** will provide the group with an **evaluation form**.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:37 am.**

The next meeting will be held at the **GB White Building** on **Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am**.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana van der Bijl, Secretary