

Meeting of the Deerfield, New Hampshire Cemetery Trustees

DRAFT MINUTES

January 25, 2023

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

Absent: Ron Harvey and Phil Bilodeau

Citizens Present/Citizen Comments: None

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

The board **voted unanimously to accept the minutes** of the **November 2022** meeting.

Per a request from the Trustee of the Trust Funds, the board held another vote regarding a requested payment. The fence work at the **Old Center Cemetery** needs to be paid out of the Cemetery Maintenance Trust Fund and not the Old Center Cemetery Trust Fund (as voted previously). **The board voted unanimously to pay \$3,700 to the Great Eastern Fence Company out of the Cemetery Maintenance Trust Fund.**

Rick reported that both of our **2023 warrant articles** were unanimously recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee. Dana wrote and submitted an article to the *Dooryard Gazette* to explain the need for a columbarium and will submit the same article to be published in the online edition of *The Forum*.

Rick presented the **new layout of the plots at Old Center Cemetery**, which added thirteen (13) **urn garden** sections. Each section contains six (6) urn plots. Each urn plot can hold two urns. **The new addition will be able to accommodate up to 156 urns.** Jim Franklin generously updated the map free of charge. The plan includes a 3' walkway between each section and was designed to have markers that will lay flat for easy maintenance. The board hopes to start selling these plots in the spring. Further discussion is needed regarding rules and regulations and pricing.

Rick is **seeking estimates** to repair the wall at **Haynes Cemetery** (granite slabs have slipped) and for the cleanup of **Goodhue Fellows** (Mt Delight), **Haynes Currier** (Ridge) and **French** (Candia) cemeteries.

Dana reported that she is working on **updating the records** for **Morrison Cemetery**. She is cross-referencing the Wasson survey from the 80s with updated burials and deed information (where available). She has also been uploading the information and headstone photos to the **Find-a-Grave** website to digitize the memorials whenever possible.

Barry Brearley reported to Rick that **gate at the Ladd A-5 cemetery is missing**. Rick will check it out and report to the police if necessary. Dana will check the availability of trust funds to cover a replacement if needed.

The next meeting will be held at the GB White Building on Wednesday, February 15th at 9:30 am.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

Respectfully submitted by Dana van der Bijl, Secretary