

Meeting of the Deerfield, New Hampshire Cemetery Trustees

DRAFT MINUTES

April 5, 2023

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

Citizens Present/Citizen Comments: None

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

The board **voted unanimously to accept the minutes** of the **February 2023** meeting.

No citizen comments.

The board **welcomed newly elected Jenny Wellington** to the trustees. She has been sworn in by the clerk and can fully participate in the meeting.

The **board voted unanimously to maintain its current organization**, with Rick Druckenmiller as Chair, Dana van der Bijl as Secretary, and Maureen Mann as alternate.

The **board voted unanimously** to have the wall at **D-20 Haynes Cemetery** repaired by Jesse Riel for **\$3,200**. The damage has gotten worse since the first time he quoted the job. Contractors are not returning our calls for additional estimates. The board agrees that **any money available in the D-20 Haynes Trust account in the Common Trust AB** should be used first, with the balance to come from the maintenance fund.

The board discussed the **2023 cemetery warrant articles that passed**. We will be receiving **\$35,000** for cemetery maintenance and **\$55,000** for the **construction of a 64-niche, double-sided granite columbarium**.

Ron and Jenny will work together to **create a detailed request for proposals**. Maureen will forward them the supplier information she has gathered so far. They will seek estimates for the columbarium, including foundation and landscaping.

Once we have received proposals, the board will **discuss pricing for the niches and specs for inscriptions**.

Rick will touch base with Mark Young regarding the **plans for Old Center Cemetery moving forward**, including the **columbarium addition** and **planning for the urn garden**. He will also ask **what the charges should be for opening an urn garden plot vs. opening a traditional grave**.

The board voted unanimously to sell urn garden plots (2'x4') for \$400. This will include the **right to inter two (2) urns**.

Dana will look into the **logistics and requirements for burying urns**.

Phil cleaned up **French Cemetery on Candia Road** and hauled away the debris. He said it would now be a good candidate for a volunteer group to rake.

At our last meeting, John Harrington notified the board that the **American Legion would like to see the large maple near the flagpole get trimmed before they install a new flag**, as the branches have shredded the current flag. The board found that trimming the tree to that extent would look terrible and/or kill the tree. All agreed that taking the tree down is not an option, and that the best solution would be to move the location of the pole to a safer area closer to the road. Rick will talk to Mark about the best location. John Harrington will touch base with the representative from the Legion to put him in touch with Rick/Mark and find out if he has any input regarding the new pole.

Phil discovered a large double headstone that has fallen off its base in **F-05 Dearborn Cemetery**. Dana checked into the trust fund and found that there is some money available for use in that location. All agreed that it should be taken care of. **Phil will contact monument companies and get estimates.**

The next meeting will be held at the GB White Building on Wednesday, May 17th at 9:30 am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:53 am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dana van der Bijl, Secretary