

Minutes of November 14, 2024 Cemetery Trustees Meeting

Held at the Meeting House, Canterbury, NH

Present were John Goegel, Jan Cote, Sam Papps, Kent Ruesswick and Mark Stevens.

John Goegel opened the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

Item 1: John made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 15th, 2024 Trustees Meeting, seconded by Jan Cote. After a discussion regarding a typo, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously to accept the minutes as amended.

Item 2: Kent Ruesswick reported as Sexton that Kerri Maxfield's interment was to be determined. Kent spoke with Kevin Fife and agreed on a 12' opening in the wall to the Hannon addition to the cemetery. There is an oversized stump that needs to be removed, and ledge pack needs to be added for the driveway. Jan asked about a dead tree on the ground in the new addition. Sumner and Kathy Dole's headstone had been installed; the Paradis headstone had been installed this fall as well. Jeff Leidinger had been working on fall cleaning up the Shell Meetinghouse Cemetery with a weed whip. Dave Court had been spoken to about the chain at the SMC.

Item 3: Mark Stevens reported as Historian that the Cemetery Walk had gone well, netting some \$1,400 for the Cemetery Association. There was also a request that the Trustees consider a resident's need for a free space to be interred with their spouse due to financial constraints. The Trustees discussed how they could assist the family, and Sam made a motion to suggest to the family that they apply to the Town Trust Funds for grave money from the welfare program to buy a cremation grave, or that the Trustees can offer to waive the fee for a grave of our choosing. Motion seconded by John Goegel; passed unanimously after no discussion.

Item 4: John Goegel had no report for Veteran's Affairs.

Item 5: The Trustees asked Keeper Coordinator Jan Cote to write a note to the Travis family, sending their sympathies on the death of Keeper Mark Travis. The question also arose if the items collected on Nov. 1st annual clean up could be disposed of, and the answer was arrived at that yes they could be thrown away.

Item 6: Old Business,

a. Brian Magoon did the tree work of removing several large pines and cleaned up the new Hannon Section. Sam and Kent had laid out the outer perimeter of the new block of graves in the new section, which proved much harder than anticipated given New England soil conditions.

b. Tree Removals were decided to be done for the year.

c. The headstone at the Center Cemetery was righted thanks to Don Cotnoir, and the bill paid. The decedent was Luranna Roberts.

d. The chain was installed at Shell Meetinghouse Cemetery, and the bill was paid by the Trustees.

e. John and Jan did the annual clean up, it was a warm day Wednesday, November 6th,

2024.

f. John and Jan both thought the Rules and Regulations sign was fine as presented, and the Trustees discussed placement and size, material etc. John and Jan will investigate and bring back ideas for a proposal for the 2025 year.

g. Kal McKay was consulted whether a historical report could be included in the Town Report for the Trustees this year, and the answer was in the affirmative. Mark will write about George Shannon, and inquired of the Trustees the facts and figures for their annual report. For the 2025 year, Sam suggested tackling the care of the receiving tomb at the Center Cemetery, painting the doors and trim, and seeing to repairs to the masonry.

Item 7: Under New Business, Greg Heath wrote to the Trustees regarding the discussion on Green Burials for the Quakers. The Trustees will answer that plots are available to residents for purchase on an as-requested or as needed basis.

The next meeting will be Thursday, December 12th, 2024 at 9 a.m.

John Goegel made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Jan Cote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Papps, Secretary