

Minutes of September 23, 2025, Cemetery Trustees Meeting

The Trustees met at the Center Cemetery at 8 a.m. to review broken stones for repairs. This took about half an hour, and the Trustees decided to reconvene at the Meeting House at 9 a.m. for the Board Meeting, to be held at the Meeting House, Canterbury, NH

Present when John Goegel reopened the meeting at the Meeting House at 8:57 a.m. were John Goegel, Jan Cote, Sam Papps, Kent Ruesswick and Mark Stevens.

1) John made a motion to accept the minutes of August 19th, 2025, meeting, seconded by Jan. The Trustees voted unanimously, and the minutes were accepted.

2) Kent Ruesswick, Sexton, reported that there was one burial pending for Colleen Fife.

3) The Historian's Report was delivered by Mark Stevens, noting that perhaps Capt. Jeremiah Clough would be a suitable highlight for the 2025 Town Cemetery Report. He also reported that he had looked at the new area behind the cemetery and took out three trees that Kent had marked and will resume the work this fall. There was a discussion regarding the stumps and using the tree line in the Town budget for grinding, and Kent Ruesswick would follow up with Brian Magoon on this project. Mark also discussed collecting acorns from the Maple Grove oaks for the Tricentennial Committee's project to plant 300 trees in 2027, but he is looking for sugar maple sprouts for the projects as well. He also noted that he and Kent had backfilled the corner markers at the Brown grave in Section F at Maple Grove.

4) John Goegel had no report.

5) Jan reported that she and John had visited twelve cemeteries for annual inspections. At Maple Grove, the Herrick headstone was repaired. The Trustees discussed the November 1st clean up date at Maple Grove. There was discussion about a broken stone at the Mason cemetery, and the Trustees also discussed the cemetery on the Abberton property at Abberton Road.

6) John reported that the Herrick headstone had been repaired. Now that the Trustees had reviewed the Center cemetery, John will contact Don Cotnoir to see about a quote for repair. The tree budget would go towards grinding the stumps in the new turn around at the back of the Maple Grove. The discussion regarding repair of the Mason cemetery broken stone was tabled. Sam noted he had ordered security cameras, and they were set to be delivered that week.

7) John put the notice for the November clean up in the October Newsletter. John will contact John Fife Jr. regarding the items at the Fife lot again. He also requested that the Trustees review the Town's Code of Conduct. The Trustees discussed the Abberton property that was for sale, with acreage that abuts the Maple Groce Cemetery on the north side. Kent and Mark will walk some of the boundary and see if the Trustees should be interested in looking at acquiring some of the property for future expansion.

The Trustees decided the next meeting would be **Tuesday** October 21st at 9 a.m. The meeting was closed by motion from John and second by Jan, with a unanimous voice vote at 9:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Papps, Secretary
for the Canterbury Cemetery Trustees