

Final approved Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 s.p.

## Minutes of the Canterbury Cemetery Trustees

Meeting of November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, held at the Meeting House, Canterbury Center

Present were John Goegel and Sam Papps, Trustees; Kent Ruesswick, Sexton; and Mark Stevens, Historian.

John Goegel opened the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

The Trustees chose to table approval of the October minutes until the next meeting.

The Sexton did not have a report.

Mark Stevens noted that Brian Magoon had cut and cleared trees and ground the stumps, and the log lengths had been removed. He noted that a granddaughter of Chester Lamprey approached him regarding an incorrect date on a headstone, but it was clarified that it was not the responsibility of the Trustees. Mark asked for anything new or different for the year 2025 to be incorporated into the 2025 annual report.

John Goegel reported that the Trustees had received an email from Rose Fife regarding a missing American flag at Kevin L. Fife's grave, and John had replaced it.

There was no Keepers report.

John reported that the headstone repair work had been completed at the Center. Sam will submit the invoice once received to be paid. He also noted that the quote for the entrance post repair at Maple Grove came in at \$1,750.00 and the Trustees will discuss the project next year. Kent asked if the street number could be engraved into the post for ease of finding for visitors.

The Cameras have been procured and will be installed.

Kent reported that he is still waiting before proceeding with the tool shed and bathroom facilities at Maple Grove Cemetery.

John and Jan worked on the clean up in early November. Material collected was left along the stone wall for collection prior to collection for disposal. The question came up as to how the Trustees contact owners and it was discussed that the Town Email, the Community Newsletter, and the Town Crier in the Concord Monitor was sufficient. Sam pointed out that the new sign at the entrance also lists the date as an annual event.

The Trustees discussed adding \$2,000 to the 2026 budget for the newly cleared area at Maple Grove for gravel. Kent will call Brian Magoon to see if he can do the work.

Mark Stevens reported that he and Kent had walked the area abutting Maple Grove Cemetery owned by the Abberton family, as it is currently for sale. He noted that though the piece had potential for future development, that the necessity of acquiring it at this time did not seem prudent as the Cemetery has space for new graves at the bottom of the cemetery. Kent concurred, pointing

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out that though it is our responsibility to be keeping an eye on this, that it is also the responsibility of the future trustees to make this decision. The new area that was just cleared last year would hopefully last the Town for generations to come. The Trustees thanked Kent and Mark for their observations and suggestions.

The Trustees discussed the recent report of the Canterbury Cemetery Association, who added some \$1,300 in revenues for a total of about \$5,000 in assets. Perhaps some of these funds can help offset the cost of the proposed shed and bathroom project next year.

John noted that during headstone repair work, the contractor found footstones and inquired if the Trustees wanted them reset or left. The final decision was that the markers should be set flush with the ground at the grave, so it will not impede maintenance, or be broken.

The Trustees discussed the inquiry into the placement for the Gertrude Blanchard marker, and they concurred that the monument company had been informed where it needs to go. If they do not contact the Trustees, it will be resolved likely in the spring.

The Trustees heard from Kent that the Gillespie family may be meeting on Monday to choose a site for a flat marker on their lot. This topic needs to be brought up during the by laws work session in the winter to decide how the Trustees will address requests of this nature.

With no further business, the next meeting was set for Tuesday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. at the Meeting House. The Trustees closed the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Papps, Secretary  
for the Canterbury Cemetery Trustees