

Minutes of the July 21, 2026 Canterbury Cemetery Trustees
Held at the Canterbury Meeting House at 9 a.m.

In attendance - John Goegel, Sam Papps, Jan Cote, Kent Ruesswick, Mark Stevens
Linda Fife and Kevin Fife

John opened the meeting at 9:05 A.M.

Linda Fife and Kevin Fife were present in regards to clarification as to the location of their plots at Maple Grove Cemetery. Linda Fife has the deed to the plot showing that they owned 8 lots that measured 4' x 10'. Linda questioned the placement of the graves in the lot. Linda had assumed that they owned a piece much bigger than they actually do. After much discussion with the trustees, sexton, and the Fifes, the Fifes took home a map of the location and will choose the configuration for their 8 lots and let us know their choices.

John Goegel made the motion to accept the minutes of the June 9th meeting. Jan Cote seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Sexton's report - Kent Ruesswick reported that the placement of the granite posts at the entrance of Maple Grove Cemetery went well and they look very nice. All involved have been properly thanked and Kevin Fife has been paid for his work. Kent will be overseeing the burial of Carl and Betty Peterson's cremains next Thursday, July 23, 2026. Kent also expressed that he would like to see pins set rather than corner markers at gravesites, and he will oversee this. Kent and Mark Stevens recently set some granite corner markers and they felt they were not properly compensated for their work and time put in. Mark stated corner markers can be used on the interior, for aesthetics, and pins to outlines.

Historian's report- Mark Stevens reported on a state historical scavenger hunt. It is called the 603 NH State Tourism History Scavenger Hunt. He said three of the items in the scavenger hunt can be found right in the Canterbury Center Cemetery. Mark has been asked by participants to be shown three places; Sampson Battis grave, Henry Parkinson grave, and a Town Pound.

Veteran's report- John Goegel provided an updated version of the Military Veteran's Project. This has entailed a lot of research and John was thanked for his time and effort. The Trustees, Sexton, and Historian have been provided with a personal copy.

Cemetery Keepers report- Jan Cote has heard from several keepers on the status of their cemetery. Ken Stern reported all is cared for at Bean Hill Cemetery and he sent a picture. Fern Schneider emailed that Moore Cemetery is all set. Recently Jeff Leidinger and John Goegel have done a beautiful job on Shell Meetinghouse Cemetery. John Weberski will be care taking at the Osgoodites soon. It was reported that the Ham Cemetery on Shaker Road looks well kept. A keeper at Kimball West Cemetery is still needed. Jan will advertise in the town email for a new keeper.

Old business - The review of the updated cemetery Rules/Regulations, and Right to Inter Document, which was recently done by John and Jan was tabled until the next meeting.

New Business-

Headstone repairs - Center Cemetery is still being worked on by Don Cotnoir and his helpers. Don will be retiring and it is unclear as to who might do headstone repair for us in the future. Concerns regarding cemetery maintenance was discussed. John feels we need cemetery maintenance guidelines due to regularly occurring damage at Maple Grove Cemetery. Jan will help with this. The town manager is aware of these issues, as well as the Town Highway Dept. Kent reported that Dudley Laufman passed away on July 13, 2026, and has been buried on his own property. Our cemetery records will reflect this as a death certificate has been provided. Sam reported that Cheryl Andrew will be taking over as secretary for the Cemetery Trustees replacing him. Cheryl is a town employee. She will begin duties at our next meeting in August.

The next meeting will be held on August 11, at 9 A.M. in the Meeting House.

John Goegel motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 A.M., Jan Cote seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan R. Cote, Acting Secretary