

August 9, 2016: Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

Present: Richard Petrin, Dale Milne, Commissioners; Tamara Butcher, Select board; Frank Anderson, Caretaker & Chuck Moore

5:00: Frank, Dale, Tamara and later, Richard, met to assess the cemetery's condition. Stone Vault has not come from Newport to straighten stones leaning from time and weather. Dale called last week, but nothing yet has happened on that front. Frank then pointed out skid marks in the lawn near the parking area. He raked them to try to even out the ground. The grass has held its green color this year, despite the drought. Frank attributes that to "cutting long". The group watched a car travel the loop road. It did not spin its tires on the steep area, but "One Way" signs will be discussed.

5:30: The formal meeting began in the burial ground. The July meeting minutes were approved.

Frank reported on his progress. Under the topic of expenditures, he said that a weed whipper had to be repaired the previous day, and that the Cemetery budget would be used for stones used to repair the gravel road. He said that a poplar had split and fallen in the cemetery. The O'Day burial site was examined. A question about plantings came up: Since bushes are not permitted, where do roses fall? It was voted that the owner must maintain the roses by pruning, or they will be removed.

Messer Hill "looks ok" and Fowlertown is done. The O'Days have donated a wheelbarrow, which the Commission noted with thanks.

Tamara reported that the receipts Bryan O'Day found have been moved to the Historical Society and copied for his family records. As for digitizing the book's records, she says she has about 50 pages left to go.

Dale reported that Peter Maurer and she spoke, but he has not yet offered a drawing, nor an estimate for the main sign's replacement. As for last months' question re: dog burials, the State of NH has no prohibitions to burying a dog with its owner.

In Other Business, Chuck suggested wooden crosses as inexpensive markers for the approximately six unmarked graves. New London has a few that fit in nicely. The group agreed that plastic markers flush with the ground would not hold up under the mowers long enough to justify their cost. Frank pointed out that boulders in the north end are part of designated plots. Looking forward, Frank pointed out that the 2017 budget needs to include monies for road work. We will discuss the 2017 budget at the September 6 meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:15PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Milne