

April 4th, 2024 Minutes of the Canterbury Cemetery Trustees Meeting

Held at the Meeting House, Canterbury Center

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

John Goegel, Chairman, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

- 1) John Goegel made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 2024 meeting, seconded by Jan Cote. Sam Papps made one amendment to the minutes, changing Shell Meetinghouse to one word. Vote unanimous and the minutes were placed on file as amended.
- 2) Sexton's Report by Sam Papps from Kent Ruesswick noted that Francis Dow, Peter Papps and Johanna Schmidt's burials had been scheduled.
- 3) The Historians Report by Sam Papps from Mark Stevens noted that he had met with Deb and Diane regarding the next Cemetery walk. John noted the Trustees' thanks to Mark for writing the report for the Annual Town Report, and to Kathleen McKay for printing it when it didn't make the final 2024 Report. Mark later reported that the Osgoodites had been suggested for the Cemetery Walk this year, but it hadn't been finalized.
- 4) John Goegel had no Veterans Affairs report.
- 5) Jan Cote noted she had been in touch with Greg and Ruth Heath re. the Lyford Cemetery, and will wait to hear back from him. Beth Blair had approached Jan regarding her duties as a keeper at Maple Grove Cemetery, and Sam noted we had already allowed her to water and weed last year. Jan also noted the Spring Keepers letter would go out soon.
- 6) Under Old Business, the Cemetery Expansion was discussed by the Trustees. On April 1st, the Hannon's and Selectmen had signed a purchase and sales agreement to have the Town acquire ½ acre of land. The Trustees discussed the steps necessary to stump and prepare the new area for burials next year. Sam would go back and request updated estimates and check that the contractors have insurance and bring it to the May meeting. The Trustees discussed the letter sent to David and Anne Emerson of Shaker Road regarding burials in the Ham Cemetery but no word from the Emerson's had been received in reply.
- 7) The subject of the Quaker Friends buying green burial graves for the congregation in the Maple Grove was tabled as the Trustees had not heard anything from the group regarding their interest or specifics of their needs.
- 8) John went over the budget, remarking on the headstone repair quotes received for Mathes, Maple Grove and Hancock Cemeteries. John will check with the contractor regarding which we could do this year, as Sam asked to spread the budget between the three cemeteries and not just focus on Hancock.
- 9) Under New Business, Mark asked when the Cemetery was opened because the Glines family had a marker to install for George, and the answer was April 18th. Sam asked about the liability of having families install their own markers without a Trustee or the Sexton present. John Goegel showed the group the upright marker he wants to place at Shell Meetinghouse Cemetery. Sam Papps showed the flat stone marker that his family

had purchased for Peter Papps. Sam also brought up the Messingers request for a lot at Shell Meetinghouse Cemetery, and the price difference. It was agreed a \$100 check would be requested for the change to SMC and Sam will facilitate this.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 9th at 9 a.m.at the Meeting House.

Motion to adjourn was made by John Goegel, seconded by Sam Papps. Motion passed; meeting adjourned 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Papps, Secretary
Canterbury Cemetery Trustees