

Meeting Minutes of the Canterbury Cemetery Trustees

July 14, 2021 – Meeting House, Canterbury Center

Present: John Goegel, Jan Cote, Sam Papps, Trustees; Kent Ruesswick, Sexton; Mark Stevens, Historian.

John Goegel opened the meeting at 1:05 p.m. Attendance was taken.

Chairman Goegel moved to item 3, working on the Cemify records database. Sam Papps presented a tutorial on how to enter interments into the database for the Trustees, and answered questions. He will get everyone log-ins and a set of names to work on.

After Kent arrived Sam then opened item 1, Discussion of Forfeiture Proceedings: Lots at Maple Grove Cemetery, B8, B35 and C37. Sam explained he had discussed forfeiture letters with the Trustees on April 14, 2021 and that letters were sent out April 16th, 2021. Of these letters, two were sent to Judith Carri and Jonathan Ruggles, children of Margery Ruggles (B35), four were sent to Billie Hawkins, Darryl Baker, Jeral Goolsby and Cheryl East the grandchildren of Louisa Jackman (C37) and two notices appeared in the Concord Monitor on April 25 and June 26, 2021 asking for information regarding Josiah and Ida Higgins (B8). Jonathan Ruggles replied and said they were not interested in the lot or the \$5 back. Nobody else replied to the letters or notices. We have these letters and notices with receipts on file. Sam also showed them on the cemetery map from 1934 where they were.

John Goegel made a motion to vote to take back cemetery lots who have been duly noticed pursuant to RSA 289:18. Jan Cote seconded this. No discussion. Vote was taken, and motion passed unanimously. The Trustees have taken back unused lots B8, B35, and C37 at Maple Grove Cemetery. The cemetery trustees wish to thank Sam Papps for his considerable effort in identifying forfeited cemetery plots at Maple Grove Cemetery and reclaiming unused plots for future use by Canterbury residents.

New Business: Sam relayed that Michele Foley Raymond had contacted the Trustees on Monday, July 12, 2021 concerning the burial of her father. The Trustees agreed that a letter should be drafted and sent to Ms. Raymond, cc'ing the O'Neil family, that explains Robert Foley is the owner of the lot where Corrine Foley is interred and that we will not authorize movement of monuments or return of lots as discussed in the June 16th, 2021 meeting without her written consent. John will send the letter with the Trustees approval. Kent also noted that Kathi Hutchinson from Briar Bush Road is interested in one grave, and he suggested down between Scarponi and Bowley, Row 8, Section F.

Mark Stevens reported that he got a call from a family (Robert Jackson, daughter & son-in-law and baby granddaughter, wife taking picture) they are from either Mississippi or Missouri and are descendants of Sampson Battis. He was in Rhode Island over the rainy weekend and wanted to come up and see the Battis grave. He showed it to him and gave him some of the history and he went away happy.

Next meeting: Bylaws Hearing, August 25, 2021, 7 p.m. at the Meeting House. Next board meeting set for Wednesday Sept. 15, 2021 at 1 p.m. in the Canterbury Center Gazebo.

Respectfully submitted, Samuel Papps Secretary