

Meeting Minutes for Canterbury Cemetery Trustees
Present; Hugh Fifield, Chairman
John Goegel, Veterans Affairs
Kent Ruesswick, Sec, Treasurer

12/7/16

The meeting opened at the home of Hugh Fifield at 7 PM

The trustees have been offered a piece of land in town for the partial purpose of locating upon it a cemetery. We discussed the kind offer and what needs the cemetery has at present. Our main burying ground is the Maple Grove. We discussed the pace of utilization and what lots are still available. We estimate that at present we have somewhere between three and four hundred lots either unsold or not yet holding internments. Additionally, the formally general practice of burying whole bodies has changed dramatically in the last number of years and at this point we are seeing above 50 percent of our internments being cremations. We have actually designated a portion of our cemetery to cremains interments exclusively. This area alone will accommodate several hundred of our citizens. The present rate of internments is five to six a year. The town isn't growing beyond eight to ten new residences a year. At this rate of utilization the Maple Grove should serve our needs for upwards of 50 years

It is the feeling of the trustees that we do not need any new lands for burials at this time. The Trustees thank the individual who made the kind offer of their land for this purpose but unless the Selectmen feel differently we respectfully decline accepting this potential new burying ground.

We also discussed the work being done by Trustee Goegel on the identification and recognition of our town veterans. Your Trustees have driven pipes on the left of each of the veterans we have positively identified as a veteran. These pipes serve the purpose of identifying the veteran as well as a stand for an American flag. We will continue this work into the new year in all the cemeteries in town.

We also discussed changes needed to bring our trust funds into compliance with state law. This includes rejoining the Cemetery Improvement Fund into the Perpetual Care fund. Secondly we want the town to change the way monies are received and spent by the town with the sale of Deeds of Internment. Ken Folsom has agreed with these changes and will see that wording is inserted in the Warrant to allow the citizens of Canterbury to vote on same.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kent Ruesswick
Canterbury Cemetery Trustee