

Canterbury Cemetery Trustees

Minutes from August 18, 2021 meeting

John Goegel opened the meeting at 1 p.m., at the Canterbury Bandstand, and roll was taken. Present were Jan Cote, Sam Papps, John Goegel, Kent Ruesswick, and Mark Stevens.

John Goegel requested that the passing of Hugh Fifield on June 20, 2021, long-time sexton and trustee of Canterbury's cemeteries, be noted in the minutes.

Chairman Goegel then made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from July 14, 2021 as presented, seconded by Jan Cote. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 2 on the agenda, *Cemetery By-Laws and Regulations*, was addressed next. Kent brought up Laurie Shepard, guardian for Leo and Jeanne Paradis, who was contracting with Charlie Beede of Laconia to create a large monument, 4'6" in width, with a 18" base depicting flowers and cats. He asked the Trustees what they want to see in the cemetery, and size restrictions were brought up. John made a motion to leave the bylaws as they stand, with all monuments only allowed with approval of the Trustees or the Sexton. Motion seconded by Jan, and the discussion was the restrictions on size for monuments in Canterbury's cemeteries, perhaps based on proportionality of monument vs. lot size, be addressed in the bylaws next year. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 3, *Space Needs* was addressed. Mark, Kent and John laid out a proposed new section on the lawn at Maple Grove this past spring, and now decisions need to be made to continue this process. Geoff and Roberta Souther visited the cemetery with Kent a few days ago seeking one grave lot, and liked the idea of being buried in that new section, but we can't sell them a lot that hasn't been laid out yet. Kent noted the space as it exists is roughly 80' at one end, and follows the existing tree line of spruces (probably planted by Catherine Dickson in the '60s when the site was first cleared) in a slope so the end nearest the old Parsonage house is only 50' wide. Long-term, it will be more beneficial to have the tree work to get that back corner up to a full 80', and Mark estimated that it will hold 400 or more full, 4' x 10' graves. The trustees asked Kent to go back to the Southers and offer a two-grave lot in the F section, perhaps behind Avis Streeter. Chairman Goegel made a motion that the new section at Maple Grove in the southwest corner that the graves be running in an east-west orientation, to match the traditional layout in the upper old part. Seconded by Sam, and no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

John then made a motion to have Kent obtain quotes for cutting, chipping, stumping, and site work to take out the spruce trees and anything dead for expanding the new section, and come back with quotes for the work from Chuck Rose, Matt Magoon, Danny Ladd, and Brett Barton. Motion seconded by Jan Cote, and passed unanimously.

Under *New Business*, the meeting next Wednesday, August 25th at 7 p.m. at the Meeting House for the public hearing for the Cemetery Bylaws was discussed. Jan Cote was nominated to attend the Historic District Commission meeting the same night held at the Town Hall, concerning the windows at 11 Kimball Pond Road, and the Guertin Barn and the completion of Judy Nelson's dismantling project. John will open the hearing, and have Kent speak to the history of having a hearing, and then open the floor for discussion as we read through the document.

Accepted meeting 9/15/21 and placed on file s.p.

John made a motion to close the meeting at 2 p.m., seconded by Sam Papps. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting: Wed Aug 25, 7 p.m., Public Bylaws Hearing. Wednesday September 15, 1 p.m., Trustees Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Papps, Secretary
Canterbury Cemetery Trustees