

Canterbury Cemetery Trustees: Meeting House, Canterbury Center.

Minutes of the September 15, 2022 meeting.

Present: John Goegel, Jan Cote, Sam Papps, Kent Ruesswick, Mark Stevens. Guests present: Diane Modugno and Deb Allen.

John Goegel called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Chairman Goegel made a motion to accept the draft minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Sam. There was a discussion regarding several changes. A vote was held to adopt the minutes as amended. Vote passed 3-0; motion passed.

Diane and Deb reported that they had found all the actors for the presentation in October. They were looking for more “spectres” to help lead groups. They had motion sensor lights for the pathway. They were looking for sponsors, too. They would be in touch with descendants regarding the show. Rehearsals start next week at the Meeting House. Discussion ensued; John thanked Diane and Deb for coming in.

Kent reported that the Clough Gate is back from the blacksmith Dave Court, and he would contact Kevin Fife to see about adjusting the wall. It was noted Kent Hatfield should be contacted and let him know. The push to get the gate back was because Albert Powers, a Clough descendant, was coming to town but Kent had spoken to Naomi Scanlon and they postponed their visit. Jan took the notes and addresses of donors for thank you notes that Kate Goegel will design for us (thank you, Kate!). We had collected some \$900 for the project and was paid for from donated funds. The Trustees agreed to pay \$800 to David Court for the gate, and the remaining \$200 to Kevin Fife for wall repair. Kevin would also be working at the Shell Meetinghouse Cemetery on the bar way there. He has a post he’ll split for the entrance, and is talking about charging us \$1,200. The Trustees instructed John to contact Brian Magoon regarding the trees surrounding the SMC new bar way to have him remove them. There will be a load of gravel needed too. Kent made note about the discussion between the Selectboard and the Hannon’s of Baptist Road, who we are trying to negotiate a land deal with to expand the Maple Grove.

Mark Stevens reported that his primary focus has been with helping Deb and Diane on the cemetery walk.

John had nothing to report on from Veterans Affairs.

From Cemetery Keepers, Huntoon Cemetery was discussed. The Trustees decided to have the cemeteries divided between us, and ask keepers to write in with images of the cemeteries and any suggestions and concerns they may have. September 23 was chosen to go to the Osgoodite Cemetery.

Sam, Mark and Kent met Bob and Linda Fife at the Maple Grove when vandalism was reported on August 17. There were flags and flowers torn up, and general disarray of objects by headstones. There was a police report initiated, and it is an ongoing investigation. It was discussed that the Trustees write a warrant article to purchase game cameras for the driveway to catch someone should this happen again.

Regarding the Shell Meetinghouse Cemetery Layout, the bar way is going to be worked on by Kevin Fife. Kent and John need to get together and start laying out plots.

John Goegel made a motion to go into executive session at 10:01 a.m., seconded by Jan. Motion passed without discussion.

John Goegel made a motion to end the executive session at 10:13 a.m., second by Sam. Motion passed without discussion; executive session ended.

The idea of a 501c3 non-profit organization was discussed by the Trustees again. The initial investment of some \$500 for the application was talked about and the pros and cons weighed. It was asked that Jan would take the lead on this and investigate more for us.

For Tree Work, the Center cemetery tree by the Nelson's was ok. Brian is not interested in working on the Chase tree at the Hancock cemetery, and Chip Johnson was suggested to do the work by the property owners; John will contact him. Brian said the big oaks at the Maple Grove are good for now. The new area clearing back the brush was put off because it would be more effective if the Trustees left it for the big clearing job when the expansion occurred. Magoon quoted some \$1,500 for clearing the trees and brush behind the Fifield lots. John will contact him about the SMC trees.

The Lawrence family (Janet Jolin) replied to the letter sent out by John, and said they would remove items at the Lawrence Lot at Maple Grove for fall cleanup.

The Map of Canterbury Cemeteries from CNHRPC was discussed by the Trustees and it was decided which would be memorial sites versus a cemetery.

Don Blanchard would like to place markers at the Emery Lot at Maple Grove, so he can possibly be interred there. The Trustees were ok with flush markers, and indicated to Mark Stevens to have him contact Kent.

The wasp nests at the Maple Grove (having been previously neutralized by the Sexton) were brought up and discussed. It was decided to let nature take its course with cool weather coming up.

Chance Anderson offered to repair the granite post at the Maple Grove driveway for us. Kent will follow up on that project.

The next meeting will be held at the Meeting House on October 11, 2022 at 9 a.m.

John Goegel closed the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Papps, Secretary

for the Canterbury Cemetery Trustees