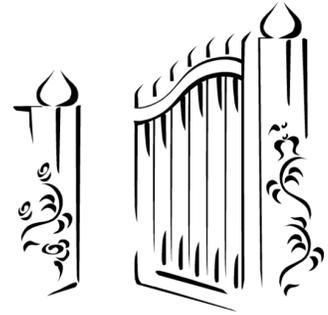




# TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES

*Post Office Box 56  
Town of Gilmanton, New Hampshire 03237-0056*



## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 13, 2006, 7pm

Gilmanton Academy

503 Province Road

Present: Trustees Marion McIntyre, Candace Daigle and Leonard Stockwell, Jr.

J.R. reported that the Hatie Smith Road cemetery project to erect granite posts with chain was complete. He submitted a bill from Muller's Lawn & Landscaping for \$4,020 (\$1,500 labor & \$2,520 for posts) to install 24 granite posts. Also a bill from Boulia-Gorrell for \$457.14 for galvanized chain, anchors and rings. There was some extra chain so J.R. also chained the two open sides of the Levi Hutchinson cemetery (2 sides already having stone walls). This is a great job done, both in reclaiming the Hatie Smith site and getting it chained. It looks like there are 11 stone groups at Hatie Smith. Marion will do some further work on trying to trace back the lot ownership. The one marker has a makers mark of H.G. Higgins & Sons. The Trustees will also try to follow that back.

Some other projects remaining are one section of wall at the Sawyer Lake Road Cemetery. Candy will write to owner of adjacent land to see if we can get a temporary access over that property for this project as the banking is so steep right at the cemetery. There are also some gates that are still needed. The French Road cemetery needs wall work and gates.

Marion reported that she was contacted by Brenda Sens who was concerned about the poor shape of the Mary Butler site. Marion informed Brenda that we are trying to work with the lot owners, the local DAR Chapter, to see what can be done. The Trustees are hesitant to spend Town budget monies on the site, although there is some trust income, but not enough to replace the fence at this time. Candy will contact the DAR again to see if they will participate. Candy also reported that the abutter, Mrs. Stanley, is willing to give the Town an easement around the site to protect it from cutting and development.

The members discussed the upcoming budget request. It is clear that the maintenance budget is not sufficient. Carl Moorehead is doing a great job, but there are just more hours every year as sites are reclaimed. The Trustees are also very fortunate to have Carl who does a much better job, at much less cost than if the Town had to contract with a landscape firm for the work. It was decided to request an increase in the maintenance account of \$500, and not to ask for any increase in the project/beautification account so that we can continue to do basic maintenance on the sites.

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Leonard Stockwell, Jr.  
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Marion reported on her and J.R.'s attendance at the recent ZBA meeting where a helipad was proposed on the property adjacent to the Parson's Cemetery. Marion spoke for the Trustees, voicing our concern that no activity be allowed that would impact the cemetery. She gave them the history of the site, letting them know that the cemetery was only "rediscovered" when Doug Towle cut down the trees on the lot. Since that time, the Town has spent \$3,100 in reclaiming the site. It is the oldest cemetery in the Town with 1 stone that dates 2 years earlier than the oldest stone at Smith Meeting House. The application was subsequently denied.

The members reviewed suggested Regulations amendments from the LGC along with 2 more from prior Cemetery Workshop handouts. They included:

1. Not to require disinterment order for cremains, but instead require proof of ownership and a signed statement.
2. Reference the tax deduction available to people who donate extra care money.
3. Add applicable statements that the Regulations apply to lots purchased prior to and after the adoption of the Regulations except that corner markers are encouraged, but not required for lots purchased prior; and multiple interments and monuments may be allowed by the Trustees in lots purchased prior.
4. Delete the Human Remains Encountered section and make it up as a separate handout.

The new regulations will also be sent to owners of lots in the new section of Buzzell. The Trustees will ask the Selectmen to adopt an Ordinance regarding removal from the cemetery of persons violating the Regulations and make the PD aware of the Regulations. The Registrar of Deeds has approved the form of the Certificate to Inter.

MOTION: On a motion by JR Stockwell, seconded by M. McIntyre, it was voted unanimously to adopt the proposed Cemetery Regulations Amendments. (3-0)

Marion and Candy will attend the 10/12 NH Cemetery Association meeting in Manchester.

The members reviewed a letter and pictures from Dick Foss of the Foss Family Cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,



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Candace L. Daigle