TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES

Post Office Box 119 Town of Gilmanton, New Hampshire 03237-0119 cemeteries@metrocast.net www.newgilmantonnh.org/cemetery-trustees

Meeting Minutes Sunday, July 28, 2019 - 4pm 12 Sanborn Hill Road



Present: Trustees Candace Daigle, Leonard (JR) Stockwell, Jr. and John Dickey; staff Karen Stockwell.

Beech Grove Cemetery:

An inspection was made of recent unpermitted activity including a missing corner stone for lot F2 (Lord), a pulled corner marker for lot F60 (Willard) which staff found and replaced, a gravestone for lot E15 (Hodgdon) toppled and two large granite posts/blocks toppled from the vault wall at lot E3 (Mack). A report has been filed with the Town Administrator and Police Department. Options were discussed and the access gate will be locked at this time and a sign posted. It was noted this was across Greeley Farm Road from the Friends Cemetery where a recent gate theft was discovered.

"Indian" Cemetery:

An inspection was made of what appears to be an obvious burial ground with unmarked head and footstones. Donald Kelley first took former Trustee, Marion McIntyre, into the site many years ago. Subsequent to that visit, the location was disturbed by a skidder during a logging operation. JR Stockwell cleared and raked the site to determine the number and location of stones. Recently, an antique picture appeared on Face Book, "About 1910.....Gravestones on the old Samuel Sheppard farm in Lower Gilmanton". It was determined on this visit that the stones shown in that picture were, in fact, those located here. The locals, some descendants, like the Kelleys here since about 40 years after the arrival of the Mudgetts, Gilmanton's first white settlers, called this the "Indian" cemetery and indicated that it held the remains of Native Americans.

The Trustees agreed there was sufficient evidence that this was a burial ground. The Trustees will contact the property owner. Staff will trim vegetation within the extent of the site. The minimal size of the area will allow it to be enclosed with 4 corner posts and black chains. Due to the proximity of the snowmobile trail, they will be very clearly marked and the Association shall be notified.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Candace L. Daigle, Trustee