



TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES

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Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 8, 2020 - 7pm

Gilmanton Academy Lawn

503 Province Road

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

1. **Approval of Minutes** – November 13, 2019

MOTION: On a motion by J. Dickey, seconded by JR Stockwell, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of November 13, 2019, as written. (3-0)

2. **Friends Cemetery Gate** – Received quote of \$3,000+ to craft a gate matching the remaining gate to replace the gate stolen last year. However, Mr. Pinette is concerned about the cost of replacement as the T-bar configuration is not available and will have to be built, the original hinges and upright were cast as one piece which he cannot duplicate and matching finials and rosettes are not available. Mr. Pinette felt that he could craft two new matching gates at less cost. The Trustees discussed:

- a. contracting for a replacement gate as close to the original as possible; or
- b. removing the remaining gate (RSA 289:14-a,V) and contracting for two new matching gates;
- c. removing the remaining gate and leaving the entries open.

It was noted:

- a. both openings have very nice rounded end stones outlining the opening.
- b. the Town of Canterbury also had a gate stolen. It was eventually returned, so contracting for a matching gate may be premature.
- c. other sites also need gates.
- d. a matching gate will be awfully expensive and may not exactly “match” given the limitations.

MOTION: On a motion by J. Dickey, seconded by JR Stockwell, it was voted unanimously to remove the remaining gate at Friends cemetery (RSA 289:14-a,V). This is a very historic gate on what was once a Quaker Cemetery. The second, matching gate was stolen and cannot be reasonably replaced. There is no way to adequately protect the remaining gate from being stolen. The remaining gate will be adequately marked with identification and all loose parts wired to the gate. It will be placed in the care of the Gilmanton Historical Society. At this time, the two cemetery entrances will be left open. (3-0)

Candace L. Daigle
(603) 267-8274

Leonard Stockwell, Jr.
(603) 267-7502

John Dickey
(603) 267-6098

3. **Pine Grove Cemetery** – Patrick Golden a descendant of family buried in Pine Grove wrote a strong letter to the Daily Sun blaming the Town and Cemetery Trustees for not having spring work completed in Pine Grove. C. Daigle wrote a letter to the Daily Sun explaining that Pine Grove is a private cemetery, sometimes unexpected problems arise during spring maintenance, that lot owners and their descendants are usually members of the owning association, suggested that Mr. Golden contact the Association and thanked him for remembering his ancestors' graves on Memorial Day. She also corresponded directly with Mr. Golden, giving him additional background and contacts for Pine Grove. She subsequently received a call from Belynda Littlefield, Pine Grove Association representative and was able to give her the names of three contractors who might be able to help her out. Their problem was their contractor failed to show for spring work. Pine Grove has since been mowed.

C. Daigle wanted to take a moment and sincerely thank Paul Lines and Karen Stockwell for doing such a great job on the cemeteries and burial grounds maintained by the Town and for keeping the Trustees informed of their work and what additional needs may be found or upcoming. Spring can be especially difficult with so many sites to maintain and sometimes spotty spring weather. They do a great job and deserve a lot of praise.

4. **Foss Cemetery**

The Trustees were surprised and incredibly pleased to receive a gracious donation from Mrs. Lois Foss for the continuing care of the Foss Cemetery. After completely renovating this cemetery, Mr. Richard Foss established a care fund for its future care. In addition, every year until his passing he maintained it himself so none of the income from the fund had to be expended. The Town now maintains this beautiful, serene cemetery, using the income from the Foss fund. Mrs. Foss's additional donation to this fund is an important act towards the continued financial independence of the site. The Trustees signed a letter of acknowledgement and thanks to Mrs. Foss for this generous act.

5. **2020 Site Projects**

Beech Grove

- a. Springer family inquired about two more cremain interments on the Springer-Horsman lot (F-17). As there is no evidence in the file to permit these new interments, they will be providing the necessary paperwork to prove ownership and to authorize these interments.
- b. Hodgdon stone is down. JR Stockwell and P. Lines will reset.
- c. There are two trees needing removal in the driveway. C. Daigle will contact ArborTech for service as it seems at least one might be ready to fall.
- d. TurfPro waiting for posts from Swenson's. Weed treatment will occur at the same time.

Hattie Smith Cemetery-maintained. Marker still in place.

Hillside Cemetery

- a. P. Lines reported that the home on Edgerly Road has transferred to a new owner. There should be no continuing problem with the public's access up to the Hillside Cemetery.
- b. Perry Monument will be setting a new monument here.

Indian Cemetery

- a. TurfPro waiting for posts from Swenson's.
- b. A letter was sent after the last meeting to Paul Osborne/Gilmanton Snowmobile Club, letting them know about the upcoming work here.

Leavitt-A letter was sent after the last meeting to Chad Sanborn thanking him for taking care of a downed tree here and for keeping an eye on this site.

Lougee-maintained. Needs gate.

Merrill-needs gate. Original gate is with C. Daigle. They will check the installation needs and have the gate mended and set.

Osgood-P. Lines noted how improved this site is since Mr. Beede completed the stone project. He will see that the old barbed wire is cut out of the site.

Plummer-needs gate.

Tibbetts

- a. P. Lines has spoken with Mr. Sanville about mechanically collecting all the leaves in the front portion of Tibbetts. He'll get back to us in the fall when he loads that machine. Because of the topo, how they pack in and the fact that we don't have a close place to deposit the leaves, it may make more sense to have them taken out on this site mechanically. Members agreed.
- b. J. Dickey will contact Mr. Beede for an update on his work here. The Trustees acknowledged that it's going to be a tough place to reset stones due to many large tree roots.

Wilson Hill-maintained. Looks like a few smaller cows have been through the fence. P. Lines did set the one missed footstone.

6. 2020 Budget

Town meeting approved -\$10,169/staff, \$3,900/repairs, maintenance, supplies; = \$14,069. We've spent \$2,600 to date on staff/maintenance. There is approximately \$4K available this year in Perpetual/General Care Funds. There is approximately \$23,000 in the Expendable Trust Fund with \$10,810 encumbered for incomplete projects (Tibbetts-Beede \$2,200; Buzzell posts-TurfPro \$4,040; Buzzell insecticide -TurfPro \$70 (reseeding by our staff unknown); Indian-TurfPro \$4,500; and Merrill unknown). The McIntyre Fund was established in 2019; income starts in 2021.

7. Other Business

- a. **Cameras** discussed at Friends and Beech Grove. The purchase of additional cameras also discussed.
- b. **Site Regulation signs** - P. Lines will continue with these installations.
- c. **Website**-C. Daigle will check with the Town regarding changes to the Trustee's page.
- d. **Orphan Stones** – JR Stockwell has been informed of another orphan stone in Linda Bolton's basement. It is a Gilman family stone and according to George Page, before his passing, a duplicate as it's broken in half. JR will arrange to get it back to the Trustees and we do need to see about getting these stones distributed appropriately.
- e. **Adjournment:**

MOTION: On a motion by J. Dickey, seconded by JR Stockwell, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:35pm. (3-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Candace L. Daigle, Trustee