



TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES

Post Office Box 119

Town of Gilmanton, New Hampshire 03237-0119

cemeteries@metrocast.net

www.gilmantonnh.org



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 23, 2017, 4:30pm

Gilmanton Academy

503 Province Road

Present: Trustees Candace Daigle, Leonard (JR) Stockwell, Jr. and John Dickey; Mr. Rick Sykes of Superior Fence.

Superior Fence-Guinea Ridge:

The Trustees met with Rick Sykes of Superior Fence regarding possible options for the repair of the existing wire fence at Guinea Ridge Cemetery.

Mr. Sykes reported that the existing fence is unique and old. He conferred with Mr. Norm Pinnette about it. Mr. Pinnette has been in the fence and cemetery business for many, many years and is a great resource when dealing with antique fences. He confirmed that the twisted wire web cannot be replaced in kind; it is no longer available. Mr. Sykes continued by saying that the web has held up well and actually looks in pretty good condition. It's the framework that has failed.

He suggests replacing the posts and connectors but reusing the existing web. His suggestion would be the same black powder-coated posts and connectors used for chain link fencing.

The industry also does not have a replacement for either the exact pipe connectors or ball finials at the top of the posts. They do have a type of loop top that the fence wire can go through, but nothing decorative like what exists.

Discussion ensued about the height of the fence. Mr. Sykes needs to go back to the site and better analyze the condition of what's buried in the ground to get us a quote.

He's proposing 36" high. Web will be in front of framework. Web connected only to framework, not to granite posts. New custom-made gates framed all around. Carefully remove, maintain existing webbing while framework is replaced. Posts are cemented in. The posts should not need repainting. He will use black aluminum ties to connect the web to the framework. We asked about a bottom rail. He said he could quote that option but he proposes a single tension wire threaded along through the bottom of the fencing for stability. Trustees seemed to feel a bottom rail was not necessary and a tension wire would be less obtrusive. He will be very careful about not disturbing more soil than necessary to do this work given the proximity to the cemetery. However, the area he will be disturbing is directly in line with the preexisting fence with posts so there should not be a conflict with the area people would have used for burials either inside or outside of the delineated cemetery. He will dispose of or leave existing framework/our choice. Replace webbing on new framework. The expected life expectancy is at least 20 years.

The Trustee's focus is to keep it in character as much as possible; understanding that matching materials are not available and we're looking for a balance with longevity. We suggested

keeping it raised enough to weed whack underneath. The Trustees did not want the height of the land in front of the fence (built up over time by road maintenance) to be lowered; both because we don't want to be "excavating", even what we believe to be excess material, within 25' of the cemetery; but also as it acts as a type of barrier to keep away road water, equipment and maintenance activities.

Mr. Sykes will send JR Stockwell a formal quote for the work. The work is estimated to take 2.5-3 days and they are scheduling 10 weeks out so it would be an August or fall job if we proceed. He will also provide JR Stockwell with some material samples that will help the Trustees visualize the end product.

The Trustees also discussed the proposal previously received from Kevin Fife to install a single or double faced stone wall in place of replacing the existing fencing. The Trustees must consider the difference in the two quotes in light of the relative temporary nature of fencing versus the permanent nature of a stone-wall and discussed having a meeting with others prior to making the final decision.

Minutes:

MOTION: On a motion by J. Dickey, seconded by JR Stockwell, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of April 19, 2017, at written. (3-0)

Site Updates:

- a. Mudgett Cemetery
 - 1. Carl Moorehead reports there is a heavy stone down in Mudgett. This is one of the cemeteries that Mr. Beede has been contracted to repair. The stone will remain down for Mr. Beede to reset.
- c. Beech Grove
 - 1. Rice/Phillibotte stone has been set.

Budget:

We have had two staff invoices to date. Work seems to be slow so far with the weather. Hopefully we will get the primary sites done for Memorial Day.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Candace L. Daigle, Trustee