

Cemetery Trustees  
April 2, 2012

Present: Mary Blank, Linda Russell, Patty Little

Cemetery Trustees

Minutes

On motion by Patty, voted unanimously to accept the minutes from the March 5, 2012 meeting.

Condition of Cemeteries

Mary reported that there are a few signs of spring in the Village Cemetery. The American flags need to be replaced, but this responsibility has been transferred to the Patriotic Committee. There are a few branches down in the West Yard Cemetery, but generally the condition looked good. There was no report for the Old Settler's Cemetery.

New Hampshire Cemetery Association

A membership for the Cemetery Trustees was submitted in the amount of \$20.00.

Oppenheimer and Taxes - Erroneous Withdrawal of Taxes

Mary noted that she had completed the form 9099T in the amount of \$309.32, which reflected the erroneous withholding of IRS taxes from the Common Trust.

Spring Clean-up

The spring clean up was scheduled for Saturday April 21 at 9:00 AM. Mulch will be available for the azalea bed. Pansies will be purchased for the flower box.

New Legislation – RSA 289:4

It was reported that effective March 18, 2012, every municipality must raise funds by taxation to provide suitable care and maintenance for cemeteries within their boundaries not otherwise provided for. The legislative amendment removed language which talked about "maintenance of a good and sufficient fence." Mary reported that this leaves form ambiguity as to who is responsible for the maintenance of a fence surrounding a cemetery. Mary will inquire of the Charitable Trust Division as well as the Local Government Center their opinion on the legislative change.

Monument Restoration

JohnClegg is waiting for an updated list of work to be done. The monument for Ezra Huntley will be added as well an additional monument on the first row.

### Mehabitable Lewis Monument

Mary reported that the Trustees should consider another location for the monument which is currently at the town hall. The Selectmen have indicated that they do not want the monument to be located within the building for safety reasons. Other options include the Historical Society or potentially a bench at the Village Cemetery – possibly adjacent to the potting shed.

### Home Funerals and Green Burials

Mary reported that she had provided a packet of information to the Ambrosio family which is planning on a green burial at their home. A green burial is a burial where a concrete vault is not used. She noted there are rules for the family to follow.

### Policy for Common Trust – Mowing Costs

Mary stated that the Trustees need to develop a policy on how to handle mowing costs for perpetual care owners who do not have a sufficient balance in their account to cover their portion of the moving costs. She will seek advice from the NH Attorney General as well as the NH Cemetery Association. It was noted that if everyone were paying the same amount there wouldn't be a negative balance on a specific perpetual care account.

### New Ideas

Mary requested that the Trustees identify any new initiatives that they would like to pursue during their term. The idea of a cemetery map with the descendants' names was identified. Other possible ideas might come from the Spring Workshop of the NH Cemetery Association.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Next meeting May 7<sup>th</sup>

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Little

Secretary