

Minutes of April 17, 2025 Cemetery Trustees Meeting

Held at the Meeting House, Canterbury, NH

Present were John Goegel, Jan Cote, Sam Papps, and Mark Stevens and Kent Ruesswick. Also present were Dale Caswell and Gordon Jackson.

John Goegel opened the meeting at 9:55 a.m. and requested the meeting open with item 2 first.

Item 2: Dale Caswell made a presentation on requesting a flag holder for the George Shannon memorial tablet in the Center Cemetery. The Trustees felt this was a good idea, but asked that he approach the Canterbury Cemetery Association for purchasing the item. John will coordinate this with the CCA and Dale.

Item 1: Gordon Jackson made a presentation of the work he has been collecting with Dale on researching and inventorying the cemeteries of Canterbury. There were questions regarding how the data would ultimately be stored, and who would be the maintainer of the information. There was also a discussion on ownership of the “private” cemeteries, and Mark brought up that the Trustees should probably start pursuing the “abandoned cemetery” process through RSA to claim them. The Trustees would check out their website information; Dale would contact Evan Christensen.

John also thanked Gordon and Dale and Kent for burning the brush pile in the Center Cemetery the prior week. The Trustees thanked Gordon and Dale for attending.

Item 3: John made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Jan. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously to accept the minutes.

Item 4: The Sexton reported that he was present for the brush burning in the Center Cemetery the prior Tuesday. No burials had been conducted to-date. Kevin Fife would be working soon to install the two new posts at Maple Grove, and clean up the stone wall by the new bar way. John enumerated the dates that work recently had been done; March 22nd, a hemlock tree was cleaned up by Kent, Sam and John; March 26th, Mark cleaned up a fallen ash tree; and April 15th, the brush pile at the Center Cemetery was burned by Gordon, Dale and Kent and Mark.

Item 5: The Historian Mark Stevens reported that he is working with Diane Modugno and Deb Allen on their annual Cemetery Walk. They used the Veteran’s list to pick out several Revolutionary War veterans to highlight.

Item 6: John reported for Veteran’s Affairs that he will check in for the flags on Memorial Day with Doug Stone.

Item 7: Jan Cote reported as the Cemetery Keepers Coordinator two new keepers had been added to the list, and she was working on the Spring Newsletter.

Item 8: Old Business,

- a. Kent spoke with Kevin Fife, and we are next in line to finish the posts and stone wall work.
- b. Kent reported that Perry Brothers Monuments came and installed corner markers for Merrill, Laplante, and had installed a monument for Laplante and a marker for Kevin A. L. Fife.

Approved 5/22/2025 s.p.

- c. John will order the rules sign for Maple Grove from Loudon and get it ready for installation with a post.
- d. The mason should be at the Receiving Tomb for repairs that coming week.
- e. The Trustees discussed budgeted projects for the year, including headstone repair priorities.

Item 7: New Business was tabled for a date in the near future.

A slate of officers was brought forward at the meeting; John Goegel, Chair; Sam Papps, Secretary/Treasurer. Sam made a motion to accept the slate, seconded by John. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 22nd, 2025 at 9 a.m.

John Goegel made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Jan Cote. Vote was unanimous, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Papps, Secretary