

**Minutes of Meeting
Nelson Cemetery Board
Monday, August 19, 2024, 3:00 PM**

Members Present: Elaine Giacomo, Harry Flanagan, Al Stoops, and Laurie Smith.

Elaine called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

Next Meeting:

Monday, **September 16, 3:30 PM**, in the lower level of the Library.

Review of Minutes:

Minutes of the July meeting were approved. The minutes were signed by the Board members, and Laurie will deliver them to Karen. Elaine will email Edie a copy of the minutes.

Task Reports by Members:

Elaine:

- Emailed June minutes to Edie.
- Asked Jeffrey Walter if he would be interested in the wood from the old maple tree in the Munsonville Cemetery. He is not interested. We may need to hire an arborist to take down the tree safely. We reminded ourselves we do not own the Munsonville cemetery as yet.
- Elaine sprayed the Civil War monument with D2. One side did not clean as well as she had hoped. Discussion ensued. The monument was erected by the Town on church land. The Nelson Select Board will be looking into a more thorough restoration project. They will be getting bids for this.
- Elaine was able to be at the internment of Rose Lape, mother to Gwyneth and Colin Tolman. Elaine shared it was difficult to find a spot to dig due to roots and rocks, but she had a nifty auger type tool that was very helpful.
- Prepared and circulated agenda for August's meeting

Harry:

- Attended Rose Lape's burial as well.

Linda:

- Did the July minutes.
- Revised Grever and Ward specific requests document and passed it to Laurie.
- Sent signed contract, specifications, photos and link to Grever and Ward.
- The issue of Nan LaSourd's green burial is still an item for follow up.

Al:

- Contact arborists and get estimates. Jeff Tador is a contact at NH Arborist Association. Al is waiting to hear from Carl Majewski of the County Extension Service. We are concerned about the tree in the Munsonville Cemetery and another in the SW corner of Cemetery 1.

- Contacted Duane Schillemat about a ground water source for the new cemetery. Duane didn't have any useful information. It was that suggested contacting Jon Buschbaum of Envirespect Land Services (603) 847-9984 may be our next step.

Laurie:

- Delivered signed June minutes to Karen.
- Followed-up with Edie regarding what is necessary to execute the Grever and Ward proposal, including sorting out the insurance requirement.
- Posted official notice of August meeting.
- Did not have the Cemetery expenses for this month but promised to get them.
- Attended Rose Lape burial.

Update on Munsonville Cemetery Issue

Elaine reported that the Munsonville Cemetery project is doing well and progressing. Harry will be talking to Mike Tarr about pulling up two granite posts that we plan to use for the new sign and have them temporarily placed inside the cemetery.

Raynor Plot #180

Elaine reports that a successful deed transfer has been accomplished from Marion Raynor to her daughter Carol Raynor. Karen Castelli has the documentation, and will send a copy of the deed to Carol.

Harris Plot Update

Laurie reported that she continues to be in contact with Karen Harris Connolly. Family illness has disrupted her plans to come to NH. We all agree that Al's repair to the fence is plenty adequate for the time being.

Lime Stain on the Revolutionary War Monument

Elaine will bring up this repair to the Select Board and also consult with other members of her Mineral Club to see what can be done.

Gate Pillar at Cemetery 2

Laurie wondered if the tilted pillar had been repaired. Al and Harry went up to check on this right after the meeting. It has not been repaired. Harry will bring it up to Mike Tarr when they discuss the granite posts in Munsonville. The possibility was discussed of having the same contractor who is hired to remove the lime leaching from the Revolutionary War Monument, also repair the stone pillar. Perhaps the firm that cleans the Civil War Monument can do this too?

Update on Grever and Ward Design for New Cemetery

Laurie has been in communication with the firm while Linda is traveling. She was able to clarify what we meant by a "future monument" in the design. The firm recommends a longer plot size for green burials. Their suggestion is for a 12' length instead of a 10' length to add more of a buffer due to a "lack of outer protection." They will begin design work next week. They expect to have "a review plan with narrative to be submitted first." They intend for the "review plan" to be available for us before September 16.

Other Business - None

Having no further business, Elaine adjourned the meeting at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Smith for the Nelson Cemetery Board

SEPTEMBER 2024 TO-DO LIST

Elaine:

- Email July minutes to Edie.
- Keep up with developments in the Munsonville Cemetery legal issue.
- Be in touch with the Select Board regarding the lime stains on the Revolutionary War Memorial and will also consult with her Mineral Club.
- Prepare and circulate agenda prior to September meeting.

Harry:

- Meet with Mike Tarr and get his opinions about the temporary removal of granite posts in Munsonville, and removal of the old maple tree. Also any suggestions he may have regarding the repair of the gate post in Cemetery 2.

Linda:

- Follow-up regarding Nan LaSourd green burial.
- Have a fabulous time on her travels.

Al:

- Continue to get estimates from arborists.
- Check out gate post in Cemetery 2 with Harry

Laurie:

- Deliver signed July minutes to Karen.
- Continue to be available to Grever and Ward until Linda is able.
- Be available for any communication from Karen Harris Connolly.
- Post official notice of September meeting.
- Get the monthly report of Cemetery expenses from Edie for the August & September meeting.

Dropped Business

- Al mentioned in his arborist report in July, that the Sandri consultant noticed the condition of the Melville tomb and offered a stone mason who could repair it. We will need to locate Melville family members whose responsibility that is.

Highlights from Cemetery Expense Report Dated August 20, 2024

- For “Contracted Services” we have spent \$5,947.91 out of our \$13,500.00 budget for Michael Shawver and arborist. Michael Shawver’s bid for 2024 work is \$10,489.50, leaving \$3,000.00 for other contracted work. To date \$7,552.09 remains
- For “Munsonville Supplies and Services” we budgeted \$8,000.00 for repair of headstones and erosion control etc., thinking we might acquire ownership in 2024. That’s not likely to happen. Suggest we consider using those funds for tree work in Cemeteries 1 and 2 if this is permissible.
- For “Legal” expenses re; Munsonville we budgeted \$6,000.00. Invoice to come.
- For “New Cemetery Design” we budgeted \$7,500.00. Invoice to come.