

**Minutes of Meeting
Nelson Cemetery Board
Monday, May 22, 2023, 3:30 PM**

Members Present: Harry Flanagan, Linda Cates, Al Stoops and Laurie Smith. Elaine Giacomo was out of town.

Harry called the meeting to order at 3:36 PM.

Next Meeting

Monday, June 19, 3:30 PM, in Cemetery I, to lay out new cremation plots. Bring tape measures and Laurie will bring red flags.

To Do

Elaine – Send digital minutes to Edie.

Elaine – Give the funeral home Al and Laurie's details for upcoming burial

Elaine – Request updated information from Michael Shawver, copying Edie on her email and forwarding Michael's response to Edie. (Carried forward from last month.)

Elaine – Help draft a new warrant article regarding the Munsonville Cemetery

Harry – Arrange with Peterborough or Keene to get the necessary cornerstones installed

Linda – Follow up with Leslie Downing about a field trip to the Harrisville cemeteries

Linda – Do the minutes

Linda – Look into Crypt Keeper Software (Carried over from last month)

Al – Get recommendations for a sign maker for the Munsonville Cemetery sign.

Laurie – Deliver signed minutes to Edie.

Laurie – Ask Jon Buschbaum to come and give us a report that we can understand

Laurie – Bring reg flags to next meeting

Laurie – Help draft a new warrant article for Munsonville Cemetery

Everyone – Look at additional space behind Old Cemetery One

Everyone – Bring tape measures to next meeting

Everyone - Get year-end business done at November meetings in future.

Everyone – Consider a walking tour of the Nelson Cemetery.

Update on Recent and Upcoming Burials

Harry recapped his experience with the burial of Jean Wilder in the Munsonville Cemetery. On the day it took 15 minutes, but there were several trips to the Cemetery and phone calls prior to that. Michael Shawver did an okay job. He had to replace a headstone. Harry suggested that each of us should take an opportunity to serve as Cemetery Board representative at a burial. Linda declined. Al and Laurie will represent the Cemetery Board at the burial of Susan Hansel's son on June 19 at 11 AM. For Jean

Wilders burial, Elaine gave the funeral home Harry's name. She should give the funeral home Al and Laurie's names for the Hansel interment.

Review of Minutes

We reviewed the minutes of the April meeting, which were drafted by Linda with additions and corrections by other Board members. The minutes were approved as previously corrected and signed and passed to Laurie for delivery to Edie.

Review of Last Month's To Do List

Elaine sent us an email regarding her letter to Gary Kinyon. His office is now apparently working on the Munsonville issue as requested. Laurie reported that Edie has also heard from the lawyer.

Harry said that he did not talk to John Bunce or Ron Ferguson about the Munsonville Cemetery. Harry said that apparently, we can't do anything with the trust funds anyway.

Linda checked the minutes for Michael Shawver's fees and reported the following: As of June, 2022, Full burials: \$525 weekdays, \$600 weekends. As of April, 2021, Cremation burials: \$100 weekdays, \$200 weekends.

Linda did not look into Crypt Keeper Software and will do that this month.

Laurie flagged the broken stones in Cemetery I. She reported that some stones are beyond repair.

Laurie reported that cemetery software by Cemetery Find was close to \$1,000 a year.

Harry and Laurie looked at the additional space behind Cemetery I and we will all look at it during the next meeting.

Report on Spring Clean-Up of May 5

Harry and Laurie reported on the Spring Clean-up on May 5. (Linda was out of town and Al was working that day.) Harry and Elaine cleaned six stones with D2, including May Sarton's stone. Laurie cleaned the stairs that go down and around the Melville Fuller tomb. She got half done. Harry reminded us that cleaning gravestones without water is a pain in the neck. We may schedule another Clean-up Day when we are all available.

Preparations for Memorial Day

Harry and Al will put flags on veteran's graves. Laurie got the plants. Elaine will arrange for the school and/or the scouts to plant the flowers. Harry and Linda said they are available to help plant flowers if necessary.

Jon Buschbaum's work in New Cemetery

Laurie reported that there are new orange flags which are very close to the yellow flags that Al and Harry put in. We are not quite sure what they are. Laurie will ask Jon to come to a meeting and give us an understandable report of what exactly has been done and what it means, especially regarding the water table.

Corner Stones

Harry will work with Elaine to get the cornerstones installed, now that the Cemetery Board has taken on this task as part of the sale of plots.

Allison Smith's Plot

Al reported that Allison will be in Nelson next week. He will ask her to bring the deed for the plot that she wants to sell when she comes.

Munsonville Cemetery Sign

We agreed that we would look into getting a new sign for the Munsonville Cemetery. Al will get recommendations for a sign maker. Linda said we need to get an estimate.

Cemetery II Gate

Al suggested we get an estimate on the cost of repairing this gate.

Having no further business, Harry adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Cates for the Nelson Cemetery Board