

Town of Orford
Cemetery Commission
Meeting Minutes September 24, 2022

Members Present: Brenda Smith, David Smith, Linda Pease

Others Present: Chase Kling, Selectboard Representative, Heidi Wilson, Shawn Garan

Meeting called to order at 10:10 am

Questions or Comments from the Public

Heidi Wilson asked to meet with David Smith onsite at the West Cemetery, to choose plot, order corner stones and discuss payment. David will call Heidi to set up a date/time to meet.

Shawn Garan informed the Cemetery Commission that a headstone was found on his property and asked what should be done with it. David Smith will transport the headstone to Dame Hill Cemetery. Shawn was informed to obtain a written permission and release form from the Town of Orford office, giving the Orford Cemetery Commission permission to go on his land to remove trees that are encroaching on the Dame Hill Cemetery property.

Reports

The Cemetery Commissioners reviewed the written reports of the Orford Cemeteries. Excellent documentation from Chase Kling and David Smith on Dame Hill and the East Orford Cemeteries (see attached reports). West Orford Cemetery “walk about” to be scheduled.

Chase Kling is working with Bill Wilson regarding removal of two trees at the Dame Hill Cemetery and will report back to us later this fall.

Old Business

Cemetery rules need to be developed and posted at each cemetery. The Commission is looking at rules from other cemetery commissions in the area. Rules would include cleaning of headstones, plantings, etc. Chase Kling will get an evaluation of repairs/cleanings of headstones. Other ideas discussed included photographing of all headstones and mapping of cemeteries.

Two of three cemetery named signs have been erected – one at Dame Hill and one at West Cemetery. David Smith will talk with Bill Wilson about drilling a hole in the stone columns at a later date.

Motion made by Brenda Smith and seconded by David Smith to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Pease