

Town of Orford
Cemetery Commission
Meeting Minutes February 11, 2023

Members Present: Brenda Smith, David Smith, Linda Pease

Others Present: Chase Kling, Selectboard Representative, Mark Blanchard

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9 A.M.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Brenda; seconded by David to accept the minutes of December 10, 2022.

Motion passed 3/0.

Old Business

Dame Hill Cemetery Tree Removal. Longto Tree Service cut and disposed of trees and limbs in the Dame Hill Cemetery in January 2023. Bill of \$6,400 paid in full. David will remove remaining wood. There are additional trees around the cemetery that need to cut. Abutting landowners will be contacted about removal of trees near their property lines.

One tree and some brush were removed from the West Cemetery boundary that abuts the Water Company by Kurt Gendron and David Smith.

Purchase of Lawn Mower. A new mower has been ordered but may not be delivered until 2024. Our old mowers are still functioning and will be used in 2023.

New Business

Cemetery Mapping. An information packet received from Topographix was distributed to the cemetery commission. Commission needs to choose its priorities of cemeteries and the costs of mapping. David will further review information and report back to commission at our meeting in March.

Rules and Regulations of the Orford Cemeteries. We began updating the Rules and Regulations of the Orford Cemeteries. David made a motion to amend Article 2 to increase the cost of a 5'x10' plot from \$100 to \$150; at the same time, the purchaser must also pay for 4 corner stones, estimated at about \$50 each, to be effective February 11, 2023. Brenda seconded the motion. Passed 3/0.

Brenda made a motion to move Article 9 to Article 3, which with changes now reads:
Nonresidents or nonland owners, unless interred in a relative's existing Lot and with the express consent of the Lot-holder, may reserve graves or Lots in the Orford Cemeteries upon payment of fees of \$600 per plot, \$200 of which will be turned over to the Trustees of Trust Funds for

Perpetual Care, the remainder to be placed in a Cemetery Improvement Fund. David seconded the motion. Passed 3/0.

Article 10: Brenda made a motion to change article to read: Requests for interments must be given at least 48 hours before the time of interment can take place, when cemeteries are open. David seconded the motion. Passed 3/0.

Article 11: Brenda made a motion to amend Article 11 to add “Any adornments need to be approved by the cemetery commission. Linda seconded the motion. Passed 3/0.

Request: Mark Blanchard is interested in purchasing a plot in the Dame Hill Cemetery. David knows of only two available plots for cremation only. David and Mark will meet in better weather to visit Dame Hill Cemetery.

Mark Blanchard suggested that we talk with Chris Crowley, Trustee of Trust Funds, about setting up a Donor Trust Fund as opposed to going to the Town of Orford with a warrant for additional monies in our perpetual care fund.

David Smith would like to attend a seminar of the NH Cemeteries Trustees Association April 13, 2023, at Deerfield Inn. As a first-time attendee, David would go as a guest of the Association, therefore no admission fee. The Orford Cemetery Commission will pay for David’s mileage expenses.

Adjourn

Motion made by Brenda, seconded by David to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 3/0. The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Pease