

Town of Orford
Cemetery Commission
Meeting Minutes February 10, 2024

Members Present: Brenda Smith, David Smith, Linda Pease

Others Present: Chase Kling, Selectboard Representative

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 January 13, 2024. Motion passed 3/0.

Updates

Cleaning of headstones in the Orford Cemeteries: Claudia Tracy contacted David Smith regarding a timeline to clean stones. Ads should be placed in the Valley News and JO regarding cleaning of stones. Claudia will draft the ads and get back to us. Veterans' stones will be cleaned free of charge beginning in about two months. Announcements of the available service of P & C Gravestone Restoration will be posted on the Orford list.serve and the Town of Orford website. A list of vets in all three cemeteries needs to be compiled. Commissioners will check with the Selectboard's Office to ask if such a list has already been made. A map needs to be drawn showing the area of the Memorial and a roadway leading to that area. We will discuss the map with Emily Bryant. Questions for further discussion: do we have a group of vets who would like to help work on developing our Veterans Memorial? Contributions to this project? Fund raising? Town support?

New Business

Green Burials and Natural Organic Reduction (NOR) of Human Remains: Information on proposed NH Law changes were received from the NH Cemetery Association (NHCA) for distribution to the Orford Cemetery Commissioners for our review.

The NHCA Board has selected Thursday, April 18 for their Spring membership meeting. It will be in Manchester, NH at The Derryfield. Registration forms with more information about the speakers and topics to be covered will be sent out in early March.

A new trimmer with attachments for cutting brush and limbs is needed. The old trimmer is about ten years old with no attachments. This one will be our back-up. The cost is around \$500. We can get this money from the Cemetery's operating budget. David and Kurt will research and report back with their findings at our next meeting. Commissioners voted 3/0 in favor of purchasing a new trimmer.

Abby Smith will work part-time this spring/summer with Kurt to do the trimming around headstones.

New flag poles in all three cemeteries need to be purchased. Dame Hill's flag pole should be replaced first. More research to be done.

A port-a-potty will be placed at the West Cemetery this spring. Cost and rental company to be researched.

Motion made by David, seconded by Brenda to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m. Motion passed 3/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Pease