

**Town of Gilford
Cemetery Trustee and Steward Minutes
Town Hall Conference Room A
September 19, 2012
9:00 a.m.**

Present:

Judy Cott	Chairperson
Sue Leach	Vice Chairperson
Dee Chitty	Secretary
Sheldon Morgan	Steward

Guests:

Geoff Ruggles	Finance Director
Rick Mini	Cemetery Caretaker
Shirley Lane	Former Alton Cemetery Trustee

Meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to accept the minutes from August 29, 2012 Cott/Chitty
All in favor. Motion passed.

New Business:

S. Morgan and R. Mini briefed the group on current work being completed in the cemeteries. They have continued working on the Pine Grove Cemetery road signs. R. Mini reported the grass is still growing at McCoy Cemetery and requires constant maintenance.

The Gibbs lot was discussed. Mrs. Marsha Gibbs had called. Kevin Gilbert from Gilbert Granite has been to the lot and completed stone washing/cleaning. There are three stones waiting to be installed. D. Chitty will notify K. Gilbert the permit fee needs to be paid before installation. S. Leach noted Larry Guild has the deed on the lot in front of the Gibbs lot. That is the Guild lot.

S. Leach stated the meeting with Belknap Landscape has been scheduled in October. Pine Grove Cemetery trees and back field renovations.

The Cemetery Association will be holding their fall conference at Pat's Peak on October 17th, 2012. Pre-registration is required in order to receive a discount. Tally was taken for those who will be attending. G. Ruggles will submit the registration. J. Cott stated some of the subjects to be discussed would be beneficial to Gilford's Cemeteries. D. Chitty agreed.

Old Business:

S. Leach reported she is continuing work on the second survey quote for Pine Grove Cemetery 2013 budget. She has submitted some of the necessary paperwork to a Laconia firm and is waiting for a reply.

D. Chitty updated the group on the work being completed by Jessica Felix, Stone Restoration. J. Felix had been to Weeks Cemetery and installed the bases for the stones she is currently working on. D. Chitty stated that she received a call from Ray Haidaichuk, the blacksmith who completed the Weeks Cemetery gate. He is concerned over the left post which holds the gate in place. He stated it has shifted and needs to be supported or repositioned in order to hold the gate in the proper position.

S. Leach reported the DAR is interested in the James Cemetery. James Cemetery holds the grave of Maj. Jabez James, who is a Rev. war soldier. It was noted that the land surrounding James Cemetery had recently changed ownership. Cemetery deed discussion followed.

The group discussed the 2012 budget. S. Morgan stated that R. Mini has submitted an application to work in the Gilford Library. S. Morgan explained that if all paperwork is approved, the Trustees may need additional help in the Cemeteries for the 2013 season. He suggested that work begin in the later winter months to fill any necessary maintenance or caretaker needs so that there is no delay with spring clean-up, and Memorial Day preparations. S. Morgan stated he will take pictures of the cemeteries now so that applicants will see the grounds and needs without snow cover.

D. Chitty asked if a schedule had been prepared for the Trustees meeting with the Budget Committee. G. Ruggles gave copies of the schedule to the Trustees. We are currently scheduled for November 1st, 2012 @ 6:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker:

Shirley Lane, former Alton Cemetery Trustee, presented the group with information she has acquired from her years of working in the Alton Cemeteries. She reviewed some the rules and regulations Alton has implemented. Some of the interesting facts presented were:

Alton had 27 burials in 2010, 19 burials in 2010.

Alton pays for their caretaker to be licensed in pesticide treatment.

Alton has added additional cemetery sections

Alton has 9 cemeteries

Alton sells cremation vaults and prepares the site for cremations

An engineer was hired to survey and install engineering pins. The

Caretaker sinks individual lot pins.

They install flat markers. They prepare foundations.

6 cremations are placed on top of a full burial

Alton's prices were reviewed

S. Lane answered questions the group had. She left charts and information for the trustees to review.

The group thanked S. Lane for coming to Gilford and sharing her knowledge.

The next Cemetery Meeting will be the Fall Cemetery Conference at Pat's Peak on October 17th, 2012.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

A True Copy Attest:

Dee Chitty
Secretary