

Meeting of the Deerfield, New Hampshire Cemetery Trustees

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Rick Druckenmiller, Dana van der Bijl, Phil Bilodeau, Jenny Wellington

Absent: Ron Harvey

Citizens Present/Citizen Comments: The trustees welcomed Deerfield resident **Colleen Prieto** to the meeting as a potential alternate member.

Meeting called to order at **9:30 am**.

The board **voted unanimously to approve the minutes** of the **October** meeting.

The board discussed the updated columbarium proposal from Monument Warehouse.

Gray granite columbarium with black granite doors. 32 niches on each side (64 total).

Base Price:	\$18,200
Foundation:	\$13,800
Installation/Delivery:	\$ 5,000
Subtotal:	\$37,000

Options Added:

Sloped Roof (4 sides)	\$ 1,700
Extra raised base	\$ 2,000
Engraving (both ends)	\$ 2,500

Engraving details to be determined at next meeting.

Grand Total: **\$43,200**

The board voted unanimously to approve the contract for \$43,200. Jenny will notify Monument Warehouse that their bid was approved. **The board also voted unanimously to provide up to a 50% deposit (\$21,600)** to get the project started, as the project will take from 14-24 weeks from the time of approval. Dana will forward all information to John Harrington with the minutes.

Trustees will put some thought into ideas for the **engravings on the sides of the columbarium** and be prepared to discuss at our next meeting.

John Harrington joined the board for a discussion about our funding and how it is allocated. We have overspent on our superintendent and contractor lines. **The board voted unanimously to apply \$2,281 from the Cemetery Maintenance Expense Fund to the Contractor line** to balance the books. After consulting with Accounting,

the \$2,281 from the **original motion was amended to \$2,420 and unanimously accepted.**

On recommendation from the Board of Selectmen, John Harrington will put forth a **\$70,000 warrant article** on behalf of the trustees. Unlike the previous articles, this will not be coming from the Unassigned Fund Balance (as there will be no such funds available this year).

Phil talked to Mr. Norcross about his generous offer to donate money toward improvements to **B-12 Fellows-Sanborn Cemetery**. He said he would be sending \$3,000 to start with and may supplement if need be. He will be asked to send the check to the attention of John Harrington, who will deposit the money into a “Fellows-Sanborn Cemetery Maintenance” escrow account that the trustees can access as needed.

Barry Brearley checked in with Phil to say the **fence at A-5 Ladd** has not been repaired yet. He is waiting for the volunteer to come do it. He purchased some iron to be welded. We can reimburse Barry through the trust fund if he sends an invoice.

Jenny has hard at work on the **Deerfield Stories and Stones** social media project. There has been a steady stream of new postings and interested people. It's a great way to share what we are doing and encourage community participation.

Rhada Thapa contacted us through the **Stories and Stones** page and has a **possible cemetery in her yard 204 Mt. Delight Road**. We had planned on a field trip after our meeting, but Ms. Thapa had a change of schedule. We will most likely need to revisit this in the spring because of snow coverage.

Jessica Zucchi reported on the **Stories and Stones** page that she went to the **B-08 Rollins-Smith** cemetery on Candia Road to do some cleanup and found some damaged markers. The board gives their sincere thanks to Jessica for her help.

E-09 Freese-Fogg needs a tree taken down. Now that the leaves are gone, it is evident that removal is necessary. Rick will call and ask Jared Messina for an estimate.

After our field trip to **C-05 French Cemetery** in October, Phil went back with a bucket of water and hand-cleaned the pink chalk off the stones. Thanks to Phil for always going the extra mile for our cemeteries.

There will be no meeting in December. **Next meeting will be at 9:30 am on January 10th** (*note: this is not our usual meeting date*) at the George B. White Building.

Meeting adjourned at 10:41 am

Respectfully submitted by:

Dana van der Bijl, Secretary