

Meeting of the Richmond Cemetery Committee
26 March 2025
6:30pm

Taylor Van Brocklin Building
Richmond, NH
03470

Present:

Jerry Merrifield, Chairman (Jme)
Jerry Mills, Treasurer (Jmi)
Robert Gow, Sexton (Rg)
Rebecca Jane Lescynski, Trustee and Secretary (Rl)
John Lewis, Alternate (Jl)

Guests:

Robert Cook

Call to Order

6:33 pm

Minutes:

Minutes of the 20 November 2024 meeting taken by Rl were reviewed. A small edit was made. Motion made, seconded, and approved to accept the amended minutes. Jl/Jme/Jmi.
Rl to send to Susan Harrington and Karen O'Brian.

Treasurers Report:

Jmi reported on RCC Checking Account held at TD Bank.
Present RCC balance for Jan/Feb/Mar is \$5,537.51.
Recent expense was \$45 for more checks.
Motion made, seconded, and approved to accept the treasurer's report. Jme/Rl/Jl

Sexton's Report:

Winter cleanup to begin -

- Fix sunken graves
- Fix horse damage - see new business below
- Started cleaning up old decorations and flower pots
- Barrus Cemetery looks good - no damage
- Water totes need to be filled. Also find a way to beautify them.
- Directories need maintenance - re-lamination

Recommended purchasing latch for leaf vac.

Recommended selling old push mower at Middletown currently not in use.

Old Business:

Laptop

A new laptop still needs to be purchased. \$500 in budget for new one. Jme and Rl to look into sales at Target and elsewhere.

Aldrich Cemetery

In November, Jmi, Rg, and Dick Drew walked of the perimeter with survey equipment and found fence posts with markers.

Benson Sign

Sign will be installed once frost and mud are gone.

New Business:

Plot sales

Mr. Robert Cook of Keene, NH, approached the Committee with interest in the green burial plots in Earl Howard Cemetery Section 3. He lived in Richmond until his family moved to Keene in 1957. He presented records showing his ties to Richmond. His great-grandfather was Charles Sumner Cook, son of Simeon Cook who had a store at the Four Corners in mid-1800s. He was interested in purchasing plots for he and his wife, who is terminally ill. Jme provided Mr. Cook with the rules and regulations for green burials. Based on the genealogical ties to Richmond, a motion was made, seconded, and approved to allow Mr. Cook to purchase the lots. Jme/RI/JI

Mr. Cook wrote a check for \$1000.00 for the two plots to the Trustees of Trust Funds and a check for \$325.00 for the corner markers to the RCC.

Jmi recommended he contact the Richmond Historical Society and Library for further research into his family history.

Horse damage at South Cemetery

Rg presented photos of damage caused by horses in the cemetery. The horses' owner, Adrian French, said the horses had gotten loose and has offered to pay for the repairs.

Rg to install no horse riding signs at cemetery entrances and recommended placing stones in the break of the stone wall.

Rg and RCC trustees to meet with Selectmen 3/31 to discuss damage.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 pm

Next Meeting:

16 April 2025

6:30pm at Taylor Van Brocklin

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Jane Lescynski