

**MEETING MINUTES FOR THE  
NORWICH CEMETERY COMMISSIONER  
Sept 23, 2024**

Members present: Emily Myers, Dan Goulet and Bonnie Munday, Ellen Terie.  
Member absent: Scooter Hardy

1. The Norwich Cemetery Commissioner meeting was called to order at 2:08 p.m in Norwich Congregational Church Library.

**2. Public comments.** No one was present to comment however Emily received an email from Donna Wheeler, expressing the following information that she presented to the Commission:

The Beaver Meadow cemetery is greatly improved but still needs the following:

- 1) Wall repair was worked on this week.
- 2) At least five gravestones still need major repairs.
- 3) At least two stones probably need to be completely replace.
- 4) On going cleaning with D2 on some stones.
- 5) On going monitoring of lilac bushes and brush which Phil Wheeler is monitoring.
- 6) New signage for cemetery such as historical marker but leave up existing sign.

**3. Financial Reporting Process.** Cherly Lindberg has asked the Commission to help with year end financial recap and reporting process. Bonnie and Emily will meet with her next week to go over how we can help.

**4. Lawn care review.** Our current lawn care company, S&S Landscaping has been mowing Hillside and Union Village Cemeteries and has sent invoices every two weeks. The Commission will post a bid for lawn care early next spring because there are interested parties this summer. Also, members of the Commission will meet with Fred Smith to get his input on how much time he dedicates to mowing the smaller cemeteries and if he is interested in mowing them next year.

**5. Tree removal prospects at Hillside.** The Commission approved unanimously to award the bid of \$600 to Pete Blake to remove two evergreen trees in Hillside Cemetery that are uprooting and blocking headstones.

**6. Tree removal update from New Boston Rd Cemetery.** Tabled until Scooter is at next meeting. He is the member most knowledgeable about this tree removal.

**7. Review draft of the Norwich Cemetery Commission Rules and Regulations.** The Commission agreed to continue to review, especially with regards to natural burials.

**8. Any other business that comes before the Cemetery Commission.** It has come to the Commission's attention that Fred Smith, the Norwich Cemetery Commission Sexton, intends to step down in November. The Commission will meet with Fred to confirm and then proceed with finding a new Sexton if applicable.

Also, the Commission intends to attend a "Green Burial Presentation" hosted by Michelle Hogle Acciavatti (Founder of the Vermont Forest Cemetery) zoom seminar on Dec 4th, to learn more about green burials.

Lastly, The Vermont Old Cemetery Association's posted in their fall newsletter, "The award for the best cemetery name we worked on this year goes to Beaver Meadow Cemetery in West Norwich, Vermont. We had a wonderful day in that historic burial ground with the West Norwich volunteer community.

9. The meeting is expected to be in mid October.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily P. Myers, Cemetery Commission member