

**TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER
CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Saturday October 2, 2021

AT THE DOTY CEMETERY

A. 10:05 AM CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Tim Lamson, Chairman, at 10:05 am. The following members were present: Elliott Morse, Mark Lane, and Emily Goyette, Clerk. Florence Morse joined us at approximately 10:30.

1. ADDITONS TO THE AGENDA – Green Burials
2. APPROVE LAST MEETING MINUTES – No changes
3. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

B. 10:05 AM DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Green Burials – Bruce Johnson reminded us on September 30th that the Cemetery Committee had agreed back in late spring to provide Martha Holden with an opportunity to discuss green/natural burials at the committee’s next meeting. It is unclear whether Martha was contacted about today’s meeting. While Jon Boucher is in favor of pursuing this option, concerns were raised by Tim & Elliott. Doty is the only cemetery available and ledge is a major issue. Concerns include water runoff instead of absorption into the ground, the distance from a burial site to a neighbor’s well supply, animals being able to defile the burial site. Green burials are available in Montpelier, Calais, and Worcester, and at this point in time, the Committee recommends that someone wishing a green burial should check with them.

1. Update on 2021 year-end activities
 - a) How the new equipment is working: mowers, trimmers – New equipment is working well.
 - b) Maintenance for Scag, Kabota – Elliott will have the Scag mower serviced before the start of the new season. The Kubota wasn’t used much this summer so service will be postponed.
 - c) Old equipment needs replacing next year: new trimmer, 18” Stihl saw – Agreed both needed.
 - d) Spare tires and jack for trailers
2. Doty Cemetery
 - a) Burials and overall condition – There were two full burials and three cremation burials this year. One more cremation burial is scheduled in October.
3. East Village Cemetery
 - a) Trees and brush removed
 - b) Nick and Tim bought 20 posts for the East Village Cemetery and plan to install them this week.
 - c) Bombed Woodchuck holes: Elliott

- d) Work to be done: uprighting stones, epoxy tops, clearing near river –
- 4. Tinkham and Quaker Cemeteries
 - a) Righting stones falling over
 - b) Woodchuck holes
 - c) Trimming apple tree, and maples
- 5. Cutler Cemetery
 - a) Some righting of smaller stones
 - b) Garbage: diapers again
- 6. Clark Cemetery
 - a) Righting stones
 - b) Wire for fence post chain
- 7. Gould and Cutler Farm Cemeteries
 - a) Cut back branches and large maple
 - b) Emily still needs to photograph headstones and upload to FindaGrave.com
- 8. Peck Cemetery
 - a) Tree branch trimming done
 - b) Some posts will need replacement next year
- 9. Wheeler and White Cemeteries
 - a) Condition, and upkeep
 - b) White has revolutionary soldier needs flag/symbol and recognition – This will be ordered and installed.
- 10. Cemetery Guest log is still in the works. Tim and Nick do White Cemetery Guest log and information. Next season, Clark, Wheeler, Gould, and Cutler Farm will get guest logs, if we don't get to it this October.
- 11. Flags for Veterans' burial sites. Normally, the flags are removed for the winter and new flags installed before Memorial Day. The agency who supplies and installs the new flags each year has requested that we leave flags in place.
- 12. Elliott would like someone else to take over the job of tracking available and sold/used plots in Doty, Cutler, and East Village cemeteries. We will revisit the topic in January. The Town will also need to consider acquiring another cemetery property.

C. OTHER BUSINESS

Next meeting day and time: Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022, 10:00 at the town office.

D. **ADJOURN** – The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Goyette, Clerk