



Telephone (603) 673-8855  
Fax (603) 673-8136

**TOWN OF  
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Cemetery Trustees**

**P.O. BOX 360 – 1 Main Street  
BROOKLINE, NH 03033-0360**

<http://www.brooklinenh.us>

***Brookline Cemetery Trustees Minutes  
Sunday, June 13, 2021  
Walkaround at Pine Grove Cemetery***

Attending:

Brian Rater, chair  
Ann Somers, secretary  
Judy Cook, member  
Mike Wenrich, sexton

The meeting opened at 9:05 a.m. at Pine Grove Cemetery

Pine Grove is looking good, recently cleaned up, mowed and decorated for Memorial Day.

At Judy's request, Ann moved and Brian seconded a motion to allow Judy Cook and any assistants under her direction to reset tilting or fallen gravestones as long as no repairs are needed. Typically this requires some digging, cleaning out, and the addition of pea stone for stability and drainage. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**Judy** said that she will contact Peter Webb about the possibility of the Historical Society's sponsoring a program by the New Hampshire Old Graveyard Association (NHOGA), which might spur some interest among the members. **Brian** reiterated his hope that a Friends of Brookline Cemeteries group might form at some point.

Walking around the entire cemetery, we noted some planted shrubs that are overgrown and should be cut back or removed, along with some "volunteers" and some bittersweet. **Mike** will manage the shrub removal, and will take responsibility for discarding expired decorations as his time permits. **Ann** will manage the bittersweet. **Judy** will contact a family member about one gravesite with significant issues. **Judy** raised the issue of cleaning/maintaining of graves which appear to have no active care. We would need to publish our plans according to state RSA.

**Mike** noted that parties interested in the Agran plot wish to plant a tree in one of the lots. After discussion, we requested that **prior to permission being granted, the Trustees wish to know very specifically what tree is proposed - genus and species/Latin names** - so that we can evaluate its long-term growth potential/risk. We will review our bylaws with regard to plantings.

The burials in the section west of the vault, the most recent new area opened before Mike became sexton, have been done in a less organized fashion than most of the numbered sections of the cemetery. We will try to reconcile these to the map, and **Mike will work out as orderly a plan as possible to identify and use the remaining spaces available, preserve access for maintenance, and map out the unmapped section (the southwest “field”) going forward.**

**Mike** also noted that one of the three young maples planted in recent years near the service building (“vault”) is actually in the middle of a service road. **We agreed he should move the tree, possibly to the spot where one of the set has recently died.**

Currently in the building are fencings (picket and winter) removed from North Cemetery; apparently the picket fencing does not match the fencing installed at Pine Grove, so we may eventually dispose of it. There are also some old tools that may be of interest to the Historical Society. **Judy** requested a key for the Trustees.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. Our next meeting will be Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall, in person now that Covid Zoom protocols have been rescinded.

Minutes submitted by Ann C. Somers