

# Shaftsbury Cemetery Committee Meeting

Cole Hall  
Wednesday, July 6, 2022  
(Draft)

Present: Kathy Cardiff, Chair; Betsey Habberfield; Peggy Wilson; Neal Strong; Jen Holley, Cemetery Superintendent; Marlene Hall, Town Clerk; Art Whitman, Selectboard Chair

Members not present: Joe Herrmann

Kathy Cardiff called meeting to order at 9:05

Kathy introduced Art Whitman to the Committee. Art had been called by a local funeral home with a request that could not be granted and he had a suggestion for a change to the Rules and Regs to make them clearer for future reference. The committee agreed this was a good idea. Art also complimented the committee on their work and the fencing at Grandview Cemetery.

## MINUTES

Minutes were presented from the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Peggy motioned to accept minutes as presented, Neal seconded. Motion passed 3-0-1.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The entrance to Center Cemetery from Tunic Road has been closed off for Safety on my Request – A Decision made with David for Safety Reasons as the Tree branches are now hanging below 5 feet after being trimmed. David has contacted the Historical Society and they have to have the tree removed. The road will stay closed off until the tree is removed.

Work with Cemify is going very well – Waite Cemetery has been Completed with a final edit of the drone orthomosaic imagery being sent to them for database tiling today.

Drone work is going well – Center Cemetery was completed. However, the wind was a challenge on the day we did it for the drone and we determined after viewing the images that we must reshoot the cemetery. This is scheduled for July 16<sup>th</sup>.

Abandoned Lots: I became aware of the abandoned lot process from David and Marlene after speaking with Carrie Greene, who is interested in Lot #42, Section A in Center Cemetery. They appear to be abandoned lots. Probate Court is so backed up because of Covid, that the town will not budget for this until FY24. It is a very long process to get the lots deemed “abandoned” and transfer them back to the town – to resell.

The Moving/Removal of Human Remains has become an issue for Mahar, as they do not wish to follow VT Law and the Rules of our Cemeteries. This has come up. I have provided them and Shea with a current copy of our Rules and Regulations. It is up to the Funeral Homes to know Vermont Laws.

A complaint was received regarding the roads in the cemeteries. The Road Crew will repair the roads and the cemetery fund will be billed.

Jen received a message that a veteran medallion had fallen off a stone in Grandview Cemetery. She went out early the next morning and fixed it.

The flag pole at Waite Cemetery needs to be replaced.

Grandview Cemetery fence repair/replacement has been completed.

## OTHER BUSINESS

### VOCA Day

Peggy will remind Bruce Mattison of the date of VOCA, he has promised to join the committee in cleaning and straightening the stones.

## Rules & Regs

The Rules and Regs second bullet point under Specific Rules and Regulations now reads:

- Up to ONE traditional burial or THREE cremation urns can be buried in ONE space/plot. The township allows for the interment of up to TWO cremation urns along with a traditional burial as long as the traditional burial is already in place. There will be no removal of remains of ANY KIND without the expressed written consent of the Cemetery Superintendent and in accordance to state law.

Betsey made a motion to change this section (see changes below)

- Up to one (1) traditional burial or three (3) cremation urns can be buried in one (1) space/plot. The township allows for the interment of up to two (2) cremation urns along with a traditional burial as long as the traditional burial is already in place.
- There will be no removal or moving of remains of **any kind** without the written consent of the Cemetery Superintendent **and** in accordance to State Statute 18 V.S.A. § 5212.

Neal seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-0.

With no other business to come before the committee, Betsey made the motion to adjourn, Neal seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:10.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 at 9:00am, upstairs at Cole Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marlene Hall