

Vershire Cemetery Trustee Meeting, May 23, 2024 at Vershire Town Center Minutes

The meeting came to order 2:05 PM. Present Peggy Darrow, Eleanor Zue, Rita French

Old business:

South Vershire Cemetery. Last Year we sent several letters to the Powell family about the need for a memorial on Richard Powell's grave; he was buried more than two years ago. The Powells have now installed a monument.

Village Cemetery. Since our last meeting in 2023, Justin Ford and his crew, Forty Acre Tree Service, cut down two very large maple trees at the edge of the cemetery behind the Town Office using a huge crane. Unfortunately the crane lost control of a tree branch that then shattered one of the grave stones. Mr. Ford intends to have the stone repaired. We need to have the huge trunk and limbs moved away from the graves.

New Business:

Mowing: Six weeks ago, Jacob Mayer of Green Mountain Mowing, who has mowed the cemeteries for the past five years, told us he could no longer do this work because he has lost his experienced workers. Jacob recommended someone who eventually decided he could not take on this work. With only a week before Memorial Day weekend, Mark Fogarty submitted a bid to mow for us this year. Today we voted unanimously to hire him. He will start work tomorrow. Thank you Mark!

Memorial Day flags. Last year Gene ordered enough flags for two years. Peggy stored them and we now divided them up: 43 to Eleanor for the Village cemetery, 16 to Rita for South Vershire; 12 to Peggy for Vershire Center. We will replace the old flags, many of them bedraggled, in the next two days once the cemeteries are mowed.

Burial plot. We have heard that Melissa Parker wants to buy a burial plot in Village cemetery. Eleanor believes that there may be a single plot remaining there but she and Melissa need to view the area.

The Historical Society would like us to attend their next meeting to talk about the cemeteries. Also they'd like a cemetery tour.

Agenda for the Year.

We discussed fencing the South Vershire cemetery including the Bedell plot at the back, and tree cutting at the Vershire Center cemetery. We may ask Justin Ford about this job but will wait until the situation at the Village cemetery is resolved. Before we move on these items we need to check if we have enough in the Cemetery investment account to pay for them.

The question remains of whether or not we want to pursue the possibility of acquiring the Catholic Cemetery for the town. We still have insufficient information--would the property need to be subdivided and surveyed? What would it cost to maintain it? Might we partition some of it off as Green Burial grounds that would require less maintenance? Does the town need another cemetery in South Vershire ?

We will continue with brush cutting around the edges of all three cemeteries.

Our next meeting will be on June 13th at 3 in Town center.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55.

Respectfully submitted,



Margaret Darrow, Vershire Cemetery Trustee