

**Cemetery Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, August. 23, 2022 5:30 PM**

Porter Cemetery, River Road

Minutes

Present: Trustees Jay Cary, Laurie Wadsworth; Sexton Joe Supp

The two main purposes of this meeting were to show the cemetery to our new sexton and get his opinion about the trees and to examine the work recently completed by Jonathan Appel.

Trees: We had talked about removal of some dying and leaning trees along the east border of the cemetery, which are on the slope and would therefore fall onto River Road. Jay showed the situation to Joe from Henderson's, who confirmed it should be done, but they would have to be able to get their equipment up the driveway and into the cemetery (similar to what they had done in Beal, but with the extra complication of the proximity of the road). We would need permission from the abutting landowners to use the driveway, and coordination with the Lyme police to close River Road while the tree work is being done. We ceded to postpone the work, as it is not urgent.

Straightening of stones: We were all very pleased with the work recently completed by Jonathan Appel on several of the historic stones in this old cemetery. He straightened a badly leaning obelisk, (using a tripod to lift and replace it) and many of the small head and foot stones, several of which involved digging around the base and resetting them in the soil. We are again so grateful that we can get Jon here to perform this skilled labor.

Joe also reported on the progress that he and Matt Thibodeau are making in cleaning up the shed. Most of the old equipment has been moved out. However, it is time to replace the roof. Joe has offered to do the work himself as he has experience in roofing. We approved the expenditure of up to \$1500 to cover the cost of materials.

As the sun moved to the west, we again admired the simple beauty of this place, perched on a hillock over the Connecticut!

Adjourned 6:45 PM.