

Cemetery Trustees Meetings MINUTES

May 21, 2018 5:30 PM Lyme Historians

Trustees met to plan for work to be done this summer at four of the cemeteries: Beal, Highland, Gilbert and Old Cemetery. Laurie noted correspondence from Jonathan Appell indicating he wants to continue gravestone repairs in Lyme, probably in late summer/early fall. Jay has the photos from Jonathan's work in 2017 on a thumb drive. This year we'd like him to also assess all the stones in Beal and work at least one day doing repairs up there.

Highland: Lyme Gardeners are coming on May 29 to give us some advice on plantings there. We also want to hire Henderson's to do the work they proposed for this cemetery, trimming branches, pruning, thinning and removal of dead cedars for \$5400.

Gilbert: Agreed to hire Henderson's to remove dead trees as proposed for \$2400.

Old Cemetery: Agreed to hire Henderson's to remove dead and dying trees, but not plant any trees or shrubs along border with Dowd's yet. This will bring the total for this work down to \$1400.

Jay proposed and we agreed to use \$1,000 from the "Other expenses" line in our budget, and take the rest from Perpetual Care. We'd also use Perpetual Care funds to pay J. Appell, which will be about \$10,000.

We had a short discussion about ground penetrating radar that can detect old bones underground, and wonder if that could ever be used to locate the graves of the African Americans supposedly buried at Beal.

[May 29: informal "meeting" with Lyme Gardeners at Highland Cemetery. About 20 gardeners, including former Cemetery Trustees Jean Smith and Jenny Cooke came to tour the cemetery and give us advice for both plant removal (overgrown shrubbery, mostly) and possible new deer-resistant plantings. They even dove into weeding the center garden at the Memorial Garden, while present and former trustees "supervised!"]

June 27, 2018 5:30 P.M. Gilbert Cemetery

Jay and Laurie met at Gilbert to look over the work completed yesterday by Henderson's. As agreed, they removed numerous dead or dying trees, and deposited debris over the banks into the woods. We noted that work was done well, and stones were undamaged.

NOTE: Jay will be out of the country in July, so we will not meet that month.