

Cemetery Trustees Meeting
April 26, 2017
Churchill-Melvin House, 15 Main Street

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM. Trustees Michael Hinsley and Laurie Wadsworth welcomed our newly elected member, Jay Cary.

We decided to meet monthly from May - Oct: 4th Wed. of the month, 6:30 PM, at the home of the Lyme Historians, 15 Main Street.

We elected Jay Cary to oversee finances and Laurie Wadsworth as chair and Minutes- taker. Michael will do everything else - !

Upon reviewing notes from previous trustees, we determined that the spring jobs are being done: cleaning up Highland (sexton, Bill La Bombard); again hiring Bartlett Tree for pesticide control at Highland (they have already been there) ; engaging Jim Amber to carry out landscaping duties and Jonathan Appel to continue work on restoring/maintaining the old stones (Laurie will contact them).

We divided up duties for monthly visits to each cemetery: Laurie will look over the Old Cemetery and Gilbert; Jay will check Porter (and Gilbert); Michael will check Beal and Highland.

Michael gave a historical overview and explanation of the Perpetual Care Fund and of the our annual budget.

We considered a list of possible projects for 2017, including: trees and stone walls at Beal; signage for Porter on River Road; painting of the shed; plantings at Highland - roses for the Memorial Garden and some sort of hedge to shield the shed; consideration of "green burials."

Another project, which is not really in our control, is the markers for each grave of veterans. Traditionally, this has been done by the American Legion, but their numbers, and budget, have been severely reduced in recent years. Most of the Civil War veterans' graves are marked, but others are lacking. We considered asking the Lyme Foundation for the funds to purchase the 30+ brass markers that are missing; also either Girl or Boy Scouts to place flags at the Independence Day celebration (since Memorial Day celebration has become less important in town and less well attended in recent years). Laurie will look into the latter.

Since we want to visit all the cemeteries together, and since Michael will be with the 8th grade trip in Washington, DC on May 24, we will find another mutually good time for a "field trip" to all cemeteries some other time in May. Laurie will facilitate deciding on a date and notifying the Town Office so the off-site meeting can be posted.

Adjourned 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Wadsworth