

**Cemetery Trustees Meeting**  
**Tuesday May 18, 2021      5:30 PM**

**Old Cemetery and Lyme Historians**  
**Minutes**

Present: Jay Cary, Laurie Wadsworth, Trustees; Michael Whitman

1. Green Burials: In order to allow Michael Whitman to go home if he wished, we addressed this topic first. Since the Trustees have already approved it, we authorized Michael to set up a presentation/ Q&A with Lee Webster sometime this summer, perhaps in the Lyme Center Academy as soon as the Select Board opens up town buildings.
2. April Minutes - APPROVED
3. Survey Old Cemetery, including new veterans' flag holders placed by Jay
  - Jay supplied the list of veterans' graves that had no flag holders, or holders were broken. There were a total of 28 in the Old Cemetery, ranging from the Revolution, War of 1812, Civil War, and both World Wars.
  - The new holders look great; Jay had ordered holders that were specific to the war
  - Cost totaled \$1,578.40; Jay has sent the bill to Dina to be reimbursed from Perpetual Care fund.
4. Decided where to recommend for Jonathan's work this summer
  - finish at Beal + some stones here - let Jonathan decide based on need, including some newly damaged (snow/ice) ones in Div. 4
5. Plan for 2 "Open Forums" this summer (Lyme School? Town Office?)
  - Green Burials - see #1 above
  - Memorial for Cate & Prince - inform & brainstorm? invite an "expert"?
6. Moved to table at Historians to discuss proposed rewrite of Cemetery Regulations (Draft #2 attached; revisions in red)
7. Plan for trash removal in Highland before Memorial Day
  - Laurie will ask Matt T. if he can supply a town truck this week or next.
8. Long-range planning, including use of the Cemetery General Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. (Two Warrant Articles, #17 & 18, concerning this were passed over at Town Meeting because we hadn't discussed it yet.)
  - stone wall at Beal - repair/rebuild
  - Plantings: screens at Highland; dwarf trees in Old; remove invasives in Old - remove roots, grade, plant grass
  - other landscaping needs
  - Memorial to Cate and Prince

There being no other business, meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Wadsworth

# CEMETERY REGULATIONS **DRAFT**

## Lyme, NH

*Revised 2021- revisions in red*

All cemeteries in Lyme are owned and maintained by the Town of Lyme,  
under the purview and supervision of the Cemetery Trustees.  
There are currently three Trustees, who are elected on a rotating schedule.

### Purchase of lots

Highland Cemetery is the only cemetery in Lyme that is open for new burials.

1. Lots are available to residents currently living in Lyme, or former residents who ~~have~~**had** resided in Lyme for ten years or more as adults. *change to 5 years? omit entirely? Bill says he has trouble with turning down any taxpayer of Lyme — good point! - ?*
2. Lots may not be transferred from one individual to another, but shall be released to the Cemetery ~~Commission~~ **Trustees** in writing.
3. A lot shall be used only for the internment of the applicant and/or members of the immediate family.
4. Allocation of lots will be made by the Sexton, and lots will generally be assigned in sequence.
5. *Once the Sexton has assigned the lot, the applicant will make payment and supply basic information to the [Selectboard office, where the information will be entered into the data base]. (?) See attached list for current prices. TBD*
6. All internments, of both vaults and urns, shall be under the supervision of the Sexton. *(former rule #6)*
7. Winter internments are not permitted. The cemetery is open for burials from May first through November first. *(former rule #13)*

### Cremations, Memorial Garden and Green Burials

# **DRAFT**

Cremations:

1. Burial of cremation urns will be within the area on the south side of Highland Cemetery.
2. There may only be one headstone, no larger than 2 feet wide by 2 feet high by 1 foot deep. *(former Rule #16)*
3. Cremation lots are smaller and closer together than other burial lots. A maximum of four cremation urns will be permitted per single lot, with up to 2 urns in a 4x4 lot.
4. All other Cemetery Regulations apply for this area as well.

#### Memorial Garden:

5. This fenced area is open for flush markers, placed by family or friends, of former Lyme residents who are buried elsewhere. Flush markers are 16x8x2, and are included in the lot fee. Lettering will be paid by the purchaser. *(former rule #15)*

#### Green Burials

6. “Green burials” will be .... **(TBD)**

### Monuments, headstones, markers

# DRAFT

1. One headstone per lot is allowed. However, the number of flat markers is at the discretion of the lot owner. *(former rule #8)*
2. All headstones require a cement foundations with a minimum four-inch margin on all sides. *(former rule #9)*
3. The Cemetery ~~Commission~~ Trustees reserve the right of rejection or approval of all headstones and monuments. *(former rule #10)*
4. See “Cremations” above for these regulations.

### Use of the Cemeteries

1. No bicycles, motorcycles, snowmobiles, off-highway recreational vehicles or horses are allowed on cemetery property. *(former rule #14)*

2. Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times, and dog-walkers must dispose of all refuse off site. The Town provides neither bags nor trash removal.

## Plantings and decorations

# DRAFT

1. **No shrubs or trees may be planted by individuals; all plantings are the purview of the Cemetery Trustees only, who are always open to suggestions.** Flowers may be planted, but only with the concurrence of the Sexton **or Cemetery Trustees**. The Cemetery ~~Commission~~ Trustees have the right to remove any plantings that they deem to be unsightly, diseased, detrimental **or planted without permission.** *(former rule #11, with additions)*
2. All graveside decorations, containers, vases and floral designs, both real and artificial, must be removed by November first, or they will be taken away and confiscated by the Cemetery ~~Commission~~ Trustees. Christmas decorations must be removed by April 15th. *(former rule #12)*
3. Dumping of all trash, including live and artificial flowers or Christmas wreaths, is not permitted on Cemetery grounds, or in the trees which surround it, or down the banks on any of the four sides.

Adopted by the Cemetery Trustees  
(+ date)