

LYME CEMETERY COMMISSION

June 12, 2012

Present: Lara Dwyer, Michael Hinsley, Laurel Ross, Jean Smith, Luane Cole Clark

The October 6, 2011 Minutes were reviewed.

The 2012 Budget was reviewed and the following points were discussed:

Jim Amber has pruned a number of the overgrown gravesite plantings in the Highland Cemetery. This is permitted by the Cemetery Regulations and many of these shrubs were covering the gravestones.

Jim Amber also moved a number of the small spruces in the border by the State Highway Shed which were being crowded out by the white pines and replanted them throughout the cemetery.

Jim will be pruning back the trees on the slope by the Highway Garage that are beginning to grow into the line of oak trees along the entrance road.

The final third of the pruning on the white pines between Sections 1 & 3 on the Highland Cemetery will be completed by Henderson Tree this summer.

The old cast iron gate that was scheduled to be erected in the Memorial Garden this summer will be postponed until next year because of the dieback in the rugosa roses adjacent to the proposed gate location.

Yearly standard expense, gravestone repair expense and tree and shrub maintenance were explained and it was mentioned that Jonathan Appell will be coming to do stone repair again this summer.

New sign posts for the Old Cemetery were discussed. The proposal was to use a granite fence post-type stone with the name engraved on it—like some of the street signposts in Norwich. These are available at Fairlee Monument and would be purchased with funds from the Wise Bequest. Michael pointed out that we did not want to encourage the use of the driveway by the shed as an entrance so that we should only be erecting one sign by the main entrance across from the church and we all agreed to that.

The viburnum hedge on the northern border of the new section of the Highland Cemetery is dying, probably as a result of the viburnum beetle. It was suggested that it might be a good idea to replace it next year, perhaps with lilacs.

Luane Cole Clark joined the meeting to inquire about the possibility of (1) her brother and his wife's remains being interred in the same lot as his parents and (2) if she and her second husband who was not born in Lyme or has ever resided in Lyme could be buried in a lot that she purchased some years ago with her first husband. There was extensive discussion of the current Lyme Cemetery regulations involving policy pertaining to residency qualifications and family relationships. The conclusion was that our residency qualifications should be

reexamined and rewritten in a more explicit manner to address these matters and that we would contact Luane with our results.

We talked briefly about creating a volunteer group to clean and make minor repairs on gravestones in the Old Cemetery.