

Waterford Cemetery Committee Working Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

Davies Library

In Attendance: Mark Harpin, Deb Benoit, Lyn Fleming, Gary Allard, and Ashley Whitehill.

Deb Benoit called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Mark Harpin motioned to approve the meeting minutes of January 22, 2025. Lyn Fleming seconded the motion. Motion passed by acclamation of members present.
- Mark Harpin motioned to approve the meeting minutes of April 29, 2025. Lyn Fleming seconded the motion. Motion passed by acclamation of members present.

Modifications to Agenda

- No modifications were made.

Citizens' Concerns

- No concerns were raised.

Elect Chair (Action)

- Gary Allard motioned to appoint Deb Benoit as Chair. Mark Harpin seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Fencing Update (Discussion/Action)

- Ashley Whitehill asked her fencing contact for prices and didn't hear back. She called again last week and still hasn't received anything. She recommended seeking prices from other places as well.
- There is roughly 100'x100' feet of fencing needed for Hill Cemetery. The committee hopes to fix the fencing of one cemetery per year.
- Each member identified which fencing company they will contact for prices and report their findings at the next meeting.

DAR (Discussion/Action) daughter of the american revolution

- Gary Allard did not receive a response from his contact. He will continue working on it.

Cleaning Schedule (Discussion/Action)

- Gary got the contact of a man that cleans headstones and will reach out for information on pricing.
- Ashley Whitehill will ask the cleaners recently hired by Passumpsic and Barnet for pricing.
- Mark Harpin will look into pricing from Steve Lawry.
- The St. Johnsbury Academy responded to Gary's inquiry saying they can send about 120 kids to help clean a cemetery. They can schedule it for the spring or fall. Deb suggested scheduling them for this fall to help clean stones, rake around fences, and pick up fake flowers etc. Gary will work with the school to get it scheduled.
- Gary voiced his concern over the graves with falled headstones, especially the ones that fell face down. Deb offered to reach out to her contact to see if we can get on their schedule for fixing the fallen headstones.
- Gary hasn't gotten a final answer about replacing cemetery signs, but it may be free or close to it. He will keep working on it to get done the four signs they don't have. The committee may need to dig the post holes and install 4'x4' posts.
- Each member of the committee chose which cemeteries they would set up flags at Verteran's graves for Memorial Day. Deb prepared lists with the appropriate number of flags for each cemetery.
- The committee agreed that fencing needs to remain a priority so they can know how much money will be left to use for surveying.
- Deb wants to change the lot sizes to one and two rather than the current one and three.
- Mark brought up the broken door on Riverside that needs to be addressed and offered to start looking into solutions.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting, June 17, at 6pm

- Fencing
- St. J Stone cleaning
- DAR
- Signs

Adjourn

- Meeting was adjourned at
- Lyn Fleming motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mark Harpin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 6:29pm.