

**Cemetery Committee meeting minutes for September 16, 2020.**

**Present:** Andrews Tolman, chair; Grace Keene; Brenda Lake; Marianne Perry; Pam Osborn; Ben Rodriguez, Sexton.

**Absent:** Warren Norris, Karen Peterson, Deb Doten, Sandra Rourke.

The meeting started at 1:05 p.m. We met on lawn chairs, masked and distanced at the Case Cemetery.

**Minutes for previous meeting, August 19, 2020.** Motion to accept with changes was made by Marianne Perry, seconded by Grace Keene, approved by all.

**Sexton's Report.** The large, dead tree (5' 4" in diameter!) at Whittier Cemetery has been downed and removed and cleanup is complete. Work was done by G.S. Goucher Tree Service of the Stanley Road. The quote was \$1,400. Two marble stones need to be reset. A suggestion was made to plant a replacement tree or trees and hold a ceremony to include the McPhedran family. Bob and Joan Mohlar own the field surrounding this cemetery; permission will be obtained from them before proceeding.

Ben hopes to begin work before winter on other needy trees in the Huntoon, East Readfield, Readfield Corner, and Kents Hill cemeteries.

At Kents Hill, Ben plans to remove part of a shrub that has overgrown its boundary and into another lot.

Ben has mowed and weed-whacked at Case, Dudley Plains, and Huntoon, and continues where needed.

A recent MOCA (Maine Old Cemetery Assn.) newsletter included mention of a grave marker in Case for a child who died after being kicked by a horse.

Ben asked for assistance in doing research to find the best software for cemetery recordkeeping. Our budget has money available for this and for additional tree work.

Ben's brother will shadow him for a University of New England class in Environmental Stewardship, regarding green burial.

Ben, with assistance from Marianne Perry, will write an article for the Readfield Messenger describing the duties and pleasures of inclusion on our Cemetery Committee and in hopes a potential member might be enticed to join us.

Our next meeting will be held out of doors on lawn chairs, masked and distanced, at the Dudley Plains cemetery on the Plains Road, Wednesday, October 21, at 1:00.

The meeting ended at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Riley Osborn, Secretary pro tem