

## **Cemetery Committee meeting minutes for May 17, 2021**

**Present:** Andrews Tolman - chair, Karen Peterson, Marianne Perry, Brenda Lake, Grace Keene, Pam Riley Osborn, Ben Rodriguez - Sexton.

**Absent:** Warren Norris, Sandra O'Rourke.

The meeting, called to order at 10:37 a.m., was held under the leafy trees at Dudley Plains Cemetery.

**Minutes for the previous meeting:** Minutes were approved as presented.

**Sexton's Report:** Ben reported that all cemeteries will be mowed by Memorial Day.

Ben will soon purchase more flag holders for veterans' graves, thereby expending this year's budget in the Signs and Supplies line, \$498.00.

We will soon purchase mulch for cemetery needs.

By June 16 the removed Whittier Cemetery tree will be replaced.

Two old trees, one in East Readfield Cemetery, the other in Readfield Corner Cemetery, look precarious and need attention. Ben and Taylor Stevenson hope to address both before the end of this fiscal year. The trees' proximity to tombstones and an iron gate make these projects fraught.

Ben and Town Manager, Eric Dyer, recently met via Zoom with summer intern Megan Lemieux. Megan will start June 1.

Sadly Ben has lost his recent summer hire and will continue to be extra busy until a replacement can be hired.

Ben will attend the MOCA Spring 2021 Program Day and Member Meeting, this year in Presque Isle.

### **Other business:**

The two maple trees we planted at Case Cemetery last fall made it through their first Maine winter and seem to be thriving. We did provide them with abundant amounts of water in the months after planting.

Dale Potter Clark will include an East Readfield Cemetery tour when she leads her Readfield History Walk through Jesse Lee Church on Friday, May 21st.

Grace Keene suggested the tipped stones in Whittier Cemetery be straightened. More frequent mowing of that field makes them more visible by passersby.

The metal white poles across the front of Dudley Plains Cemetery are not attractive; however, they hold the snow fence installed there for winter snow management. We plan to lightly sand and paint them dark green using Rustoleum paint.

Several committee members will install new flags on veterans' graves the week before Veterans Day.

Our next meeting will be held at Kents Hill Cemetery, Monday, June 21, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

The meeting concluded at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Riley Osborn  
Secretary pro tem

Please remember to vote June 8 or before by absentee ballot.