

St. Johnsbury Cemetery Commission
August 8, 2024

The St. Johnsbury Cemetery Commission met at the Grove Cemetery. In attendance were Bryan LeBlanc, Tim Clouatre, Lauren Järvi, Karen Budde, Chad Whitehead and Mark Smith.

Meeting called to order by Lauren at 8:00 AM.

Bryan moved to approve the minutes from our July 11 meeting. Seconded by Tim. Approved by B & T.

We proceeded to the gravesite for Mr. Smith's parents', lot 264. He is very concerned that the Dillon family stone is directly in front of his parents' memorials. He had no recollection that the Dillon stone was in place when his parents died in 2000 and 2002 and were interred thereafter. He said he'd contacted Roger Brown, prior Grove Cemetery sexton, perhaps 15 years ago and there was no action. He's interested in obtaining a new lot and moving his folks there, as well as, providing space for himself and perhaps other family members. He described the lot sizes using the cemetery map in the vault as reference. He believes there should be more uniformity in lot sizes and descriptions. We discussed the matter at some length. Lauren began to summarize the potential options and explained that the Commission will take them under consideration to decide the best route forward. In summary, she began to describe the options beginning with simply leaving things as they are. Mr. Smith took umbrage with this, gathered his materials, and left abruptly. No action was taken.

Karen reported that she's cleaned the Hearse House at the SJCC and has several upcoming burials. She will follow up on the question of the Eaton family lot and whether, in fact, Peter Eaton's mother is still at the Grove or removed to Derby.

The replacement fencing at the Grove has yet to be installed. We viewed the location of a possible parking space for when the gate is closed and determined that it's probably not necessary.

The DPW has replaced the broken planks at the A-H Cemetery and rehung the sign. The planks need to be painted, and the sign should be redone. The other planks along the road side should also be sanded and repainted.

Bryan moved to adjourn at 9:11. Seconded by Tim. Approved by B & T.

Our next meeting will be on September 5, at the Welcome Center.