

Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 6, 2014; 8:00 -8:45 AM; Town Clerk's Office

Present: Donna Sweeney, town clerk and sexton; and Cemetery Commission members Joan Alexander, Ricky Blanchard and Bob Clark

1. *Review of plans for fence at Westlook 2 in spring 2015:*

Nick Ecker-Racz will cut the lumber this winter, the posts and rails will be cut at the sawmill in Greensboro Bend, and the work crew from Corrections in St. Johnsbury will install the fence and stain it in the spring.

2. *Review of stone repair at West Glover and Westlook: Looks great!*

West Glover: Garon St-Sauveur Granite Co. did the work. They worked on 55 stones, repairing with epoxy or cement/straightening and resetting/reinforcing the bases. There are only two stones at West Glover that were too broken to be repaired. A few that were mended with epoxy are missing pieces and are very fragile. Cost was \$2840.

Doug Garon suggested that they might have some lower quality granite that could be used to cut more inexpensive replacement stones in the style of these old stones. We will suggest this to any descendants of families of these broken beyond repair stones. Before and after pictures and compiled a list of what repairs were done to each of the 55 stones, as required for the VOCA grant.

Westlook: Bianchi Memorials did the repair at Westlook, working on the Old South and Old North sections. Three stones were mended; 26 were straightened and reset. Also several sunken areas were filled in with dirt. Cost was \$3000. Work still needing to be done: 39 broken stones, 7 leaning, and 2 large stones off bases. There is also some curbing and steps that need fixing, and some cutting back of trees/shrubs that needs to be done to prevent further stone damage. When the Oct 2014 inventory was done, it was noted that all the 17 stones that were righted in the volunteer 2010 cemetery work bee are still standing!

3. *Report on Lake Region Community Service work at French & West Glover:*

French Cemetery: Theresa Perron reported earlier this week that the bridge walkway for the French Cemetery has not been constructed yet; the student who drew the plans for it last spring has graduated; Topher Waring is looking for a capable and interested student to complete the project next spring. The sign-in box is up and looks great!

West Glover: The students cleared lots of brush around the front fence line; David Young has offered to haul away the brush pile. Students are finished for the fall and will return in spring to resume clearing.

4. *Vermont Old Cemetery Association grant: It has been submitted and we should receive the \$750 soon for the work done at West Glover.*

5. *Plans for 2015 & budget request:*

- Donna will transfer \$2000 from the CD to the Maintenance fund on Dec 12th when the CD comes due
- We will ask the Selectboard to increase the annual cemetery appropriation at the next town meeting from \$10,000 to \$12,000 to cover increased maintenance costs—more stones to mow around, new section at Westlook, etc.

6. *Other:*

- John Perkins will be reminded to fill in the sunken hole by the Sweeney grave at Westlook.
- We will plan to host a volunteer workbee at Westlook next spring/summer to repair/straighten stones at Westlook.
- Ricky will pick up old flowers, pots, etc that have collected at SE corner of Westlook in the spring as he usually does, and will arrange for dirt piles at top SE and NE corners to be removed.

Submitted by Joan Alexander