

DOVER CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2011

Meeting opened at 6:35 p.m. in the conference room at the Town Garage.

Attendance – Pope Hoffman, Bill Herd and Carol Jackman

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS: None

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 11, 2011 MEETING were approved.

DEED was signed for Robert Schierr and Family, 23 Farm Street, Dover for purchase of Lot 25G, four graves.

NEW BUSINESS – Future of Highland Cemetery was then discussed. It was noted that the big tree that was damaged from the hurricane needed to be cleaned up immediately and that the roadways need to be kept clear of leaves and limbs. That regular trimming and maintenance of shrubs is covered under the perpetual care fee that is paid at the time of purchasing a lot. Also covered under perpetual care is the care of sunken graves and tipped headstones.

A discussion was then held regarding funeral arrangements and the removal of them after a funeral. It was the consensus of the commissioners that after five days the flowers look horrid and that they should be removed from the grave site. Rusty would be informed of this so that the procedure would be followed. He would also be asked to mention it to the funeral directors so that when families are making arrangements they would be made aware of it too.

Another problem that seems to be happening more often is the use of plastic flowers. It is in the By-Laws and Guidelines of Highland Cemetery that there shall be no artificial flowers, statuary, candles, or permanent vases allowed. Also, that there shall be no glass, crockery, or other breakable containers for cut flowers allowed. If they are seen they are to be removed by the cemetery staff or a commissioner. This policy is on the back of the Memorial Permit, but it is suggested that it be moved to the front and that the policy also be on the Order of Interment, as well as a statement about the removal of funeral arrangements.

OLD BUSINESS – A copy of the Capital Request was given to each Cemetery Commissioner and it was noted that the Warrant Committee confirmed receipt of it.

Pope Hoffman did check with the Selectmen to see if the insurance the town has would help pay for the cost of repairing the stone wall and the answer was no.

The report from Rusty was given. .

Meeting closed at 8:15 pm. Next meeting would be November 22, 2011 at 6:30 pm.

Attachments to these minutes are on file in the Cemetery Office located in the Town Garage.