

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
CEMETERY TRUSTEES
Minutes of the Meeting, August 12, 2025
Minutes Accepted on October 14, 2025

Present Karen Belcher
 Melissa Clark
 Robert Christian, Chairman

Chairman Christian called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The minutes of the July 8, 2025 meeting were reviewed and accepted as written.

The minutes of the June 10, 2025 meeting were reviewed and accepted as written.

It was notes that the family stone has been put in place at the Whittemore lot. The Trustees will check to see if cornerstones have been put in. Billing has been received for the cornerstones at the Blanchette lot. It was noted that there has been a price increase for cornerstones.

The Trustees reviewed the budget for 2026. The budget line for cemetery maintenance will stay the same for next year. Mr. Chicoine may be able to do some root removal with his excavator to be charged under the stone/tree line item. It was suggested that Mr. Chicoine label special work such as stump removal so the correct line item can be charged. The Trustees will look into an Evergreen tree removal fund that appears to have \$1,800 in it. This fund was set up in January. The Trustees will also check on the status of the NH Charitable Trust. No changes were made to the budget and it is ready to submit.

There was a discussion about getting the fence at Sunnyside Cemetery painted. It was noted that the town will purchase the paint and the person that may paint the fence must be insured. Clarification is needed for the possibility of a town employee or the Trustees doing the work. It was also noted that the fencing on the Eaton Avenue side of Sunnyside Cemetery needs to be replaced. Melissa Clark will get quotes for both the entire project and by sections.

It was noted that there has been some concern about drinking at the cemetery. Beer cans have been being left in the cemetery. There has also been what appears to be an animal digging at the Blanchette lot.

In other business, the Trustees have received a complaint about the stone cat at the Brooks lot. Karen Belcher will draft a letter to address the problem. The statue will either need to be secured on the stone or removed.

As there was no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher
Cemetery Trustee Recording Secretary