

Approved: October 21, 2022



**Trustees of Trust Funds
Meeting Minutes
Friday, September 23, 2022
Matthew Thornton Room, Merrimack Town Hall**



The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. Trustees present were Wilkes, Christensen, and Heinrich. Also present: Liz Petrides, alternate Trustee; Tom Boland Merrimack Finance Director.

The minutes of August 19, 2022 were approved 3-0-0. Motion by Wilkes, second by Heinrich. Heinrich noted that in previous minutes we had discussed records and files. She continues review and is looking for documents for the Watkins Prize Speaking and Spelling Funds from 1945, and the Bear Christensen Fund from 2021.

A general discussion of the history of our perpetual care funds held for Last Rest as well as the Town owned cemeteries was conducted. We have a current invoice from Last Rest. The cost per grave this year (2021) was \$7.22. In 2020 it was \$8.47 and in 2019 it was \$6.64. As with everything else, costs are going up, but it was pointed out that cost varies with the amount of rain and how often grass cutting is required. On a motion by Wilkes, second by Heinrich payment of the bill was authorized 3-0-0. {\$12,843.78}

The NHDOJ Charitable Trust Unit sent us an email looking for input on a plan to allow consolidation of perpetual care funds, for each town owned cemetery. It appears that, if approved by the courts, this would be voluntary. Most of our perpetual care funds are for Last Rest, which is not town owned. By consensus, Christensen will communicate with NHDOJ that we take no position on this issue.

Christensen stated that he had received an inquiry from Ton Gibson about other uses for the Timothy Gibson Memorial Scholarship Fund. He sent a copy of the original document to Tom Gibson which clearly limits expenditures to scholarships, and that Tom Gibson had thanked him for the research.

The Trustees will next meet on October 21 and November 18.

Comments, Heinrich said that the Thorntons Ferry School Playground had a grand opening which she attended, and the Trustees were recognized and thanked for their contribution from the Watkins Fund.

Motion to adjourn at 9:28 by Wilkes, second by Heinrich, passed 3-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Christensen, Trustee