

Town of Chichester, New Hampshire

Cemetery Trustees Meeting

January 3, 2022

The Chichester Cemetery Trustees met January 3, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Historical Society building.

Ruth Hammen, Fred Shaw, and Brenda Boswak attended the meeting.

Old business.

We began the campaign October 2021 to get sponsorships for veterans' remembrance wreaths to be laid on gravesites on December 18, 2021, not knowing what to expect for participation by residents.

210 veterans are buried here in Chichester, we hoped to get enough support to cover 25 Revolutionary War veterans' gravesites. WOW!! We were pleasantly surprised with the response to this event!!

We are **SO** pleased with the support people have demonstrated by sponsoring **all 210 wreaths** needed, volunteering to load/unload and transport the wreaths, military veterans volunteering to participate in the wreath laying ceremony, promoting the event via social media and local newspapers, laying the wreaths in cemeteries, and braving the predicted snowstorm to make this a successful, memorable event for Chichester!!

December 18 at 12:00 p.m., with a crowd of about 70 attendees, several of whom traveled a distance to join us, we began the event with a brief wreath laying ceremony at the Veterans' Memorial Park monument. Town residents that are active and/or retired military personnel graciously volunteered to place a remembrance wreath, designated with an American flag and military branch flag for each branch of the United States military, including POW/MIA at the veterans' monument. These gentlemen performed this task with grace, respect, and dignity. THANK YOU!! It was a powerful, visual, memorable, part of the event. Snow began falling in earnest just as volunteers finished placing the last remembrance wreaths.

We discussed a few changes for next year's wreath day, but overall, we believe the event ran smoothly.

We have tentatively planned for the first week of February 2022 to be the wreath removal time. Details of wreath disposal still to be determined. We plan to host an appreciation gathering on February 6, 2022, for the volunteers. We welcome suggestions for future events from the volunteers and attendees. More information will be posted as time gets closer.

The gate is now closed for the winter at Leavitt Cemetery.

New business.

A final version of a form for temporary flags display has been completed. It will be posted on the Chichester town webpage this week. This form will be required for all flag displays on gravesites in the cemeteries, other than the American flag provided and displayed through the Cemetery Trustees.

Ruthie and Fred will research deeds for Edmunds/Stanyan cemetery that were recently located.

Our goals for 2022 include gravestone repairs, gate and fence repairs and replacement as needed and funds allow.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Boswak, Secretary, Cemetery Trustee