

Minutes of the Whately Cemetery Commission
Friday, Oct 19, 2018

Attendance: Darcy Tozier, Elizabeth Conlisk,

Guest: Don Sluter

Absent: Paul Fleuriel

The meeting was called to order at 4:45

The minutes for the meeting on May 2, 2018 were approved.

Darcy mentioned that the stonework funded by our December 2017 CPA grant has not been expended, but might not be enough to complete the identified repairs. We will probably apply again in December 2019.

GIS Mapping: Don explained how GIS could be used to map our cemetery plots. He teaches at UMass and has students who need projects. They could begin this work next semester.

Don proposed that he scan and overlap our maps with aerial views of the cemeteries that he already has. Don can send our maps to someone to be flatbed scanned, or he could roll scan them himself. He thinks that roll scanning will be fine, even for our more fragile maps.

Don took a few of our copies of Center Cemetery maps to test the process and will let us know when he has them scanned.

Darcy told us that "Find A Grave" is a website that allows the public to search and add to an online database of cemetery records. She believes most of our stones have been entered by an unknown volunteer. We will see whether we can import these records and link them to the maps electronically.

This linkage will allow us to look up a name and find the plot, or stand at the plot and find the owner.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35.

