



CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors met on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 10 am in-person and via Google Meet to discuss:

- (1) Review minutes from the Board of Directors 2023 meeting
- (2) Review committee assignments
- (3) Review proposed grounds budget
- (4) Review 2024 donation proposal
- (5) State of the cemetery
- (6) CCA succession, moving \$\$ to Family Fund
- (7) Membership and volunteer growth

CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC. 2024

DIRECTORS

Carol L. Cheney, President
Richard O. Cheney IV, Vice President
Kristin Merrill, Treasurer/Secretary
K. Dexter Cheney IV
Katherine C. Chappell
Austin C. Smith
Tom Myers
Nathaniel Cheney
Andrea Learned
Dexter Woodbridge Cheney

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Grounds

Richard O. Cheney IV, Chair
K. Dexter Cheney IV
Carol L. Cheney

Investment

Nathaniel B. Cheney, Chair
Austin C. Smith
Kristin Merrill

Audit

Austin C. Smith

Donations

K. Dexter Cheney IV
Katherine C. Chappell
Carol L. Cheney, Chair
Tom Myers

Nominating

Carol L. Cheney, Chair

Membership and Communications

Carol L. Cheney, Chair
Thomas Myers
Kristin Merrill

In attendance in-person were Carol Cheney, Kristin Merrill, Andrea Learned, Nat Cheney, Austin Smith, Dexter W. Cheney, K. Dexter Cheney and Jerry Fiske. In attendance virtually were Rick Cheney, Tom Myers, and Kate Chappell. A motion was made to accept the minutes from 2023 by Nat Cheney, K. Dexter Cheney seconded. All were in favor.

Continuing current committee assignments for the following year were agreed upon by everyone.

There was a delay in Rick Cheney joining the meeting and so the grounds budget will be presented by email. An actual vs budget for 2023 was looked at. See the report below. In summary we budgeted \$58,950 and we used \$62,768.

CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION - GROUNDS COMMITTEE					
2023 BUDGET VS. ACTUAL					
1/01/2023 - 12/31/2023					
	2023	BUDGET	2023	ACTUAL	VARIANCE
OPERATING EXPENSES:					
Care of Trees:					
Mountain Tree:					
Pruning: Trees & Shrubs	\$6,000.00		\$14,500.00		
Fertilizing	\$12,000.00		\$599.00		
Pest Control	\$7,000.00		\$11,051.00		
	\$0.00		\$0.00		
Sub Total:	\$25,000.00		\$26,150.00		\$1,150.00
Emergency Tree Removal (Storm damage)	\$3,000.00		\$0.00		-\$3,000.00
Tree Replacement	\$5,000.00		\$5,600.00		\$600.00
Total - Mountain Tree	\$33,000.00		\$31,750.00		-\$1,250.00
Care of Lawn, Shrubs & Beds:					
Executive Lawn Service:					
Spring/Fall Cleanup	\$1,000.00		\$1,670.00		
Mulch, Top Dressing	\$1,500.00		\$7,020.00		
Weed & Pruning	\$8,500.00		\$7,730.00		
Weekly Maintenance	\$4,000.00		\$6,000.00		
Total - Executive Lawn Service	\$15,000.00		\$22,420.00		\$7,420.00
Town of Manchester: Mowing: Leaf & Snow Removal	\$5,500.00		\$2,095.00		
Town of Manchester - Water Department	\$1,500.00		\$2,763.00		
Franks Landscaping - Irrigation Maintenance	\$1,200.00		\$1,164.00		
Green Carpet - Lawn Fertilization	\$2,250.00		\$2,576.00		
Misc.	\$250.00				
	\$10,700.00		\$8,598.00		-\$2,102.00
Capital Improvements:					
Headstone Cleaning	\$250.00		\$0.00		-\$250.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$58,950.00		\$62,768.00		\$3,818.00
					\$3,818.00

For 2025 Rick is budgeting \$77,500

CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
 GROUNDS COMMITTEE
 2025 BUDGET

	2025	BUDGET
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Care of Trees:		
Mountain Tree:		
Pruning: Trees & Shrubs	\$12,000.00	
Fertilizing	\$5,000.00	
Pest Control	\$12,000.00	
	\$29,000.00	
Emergency Tree Removal (Storm damage)	\$3,000.00	
Tree Replacement	\$5,000.00	
Total - Mountain Tree		\$37,000.00
Care of Lawn, Shrubs & Beds:		
Executive Lawn Service:		
Spring/Fall Cleanup	\$2,500.00	
Mulch, Top Dressing	\$5,000.00	
Weed & Pruning	\$7,500.00	
Weekly Maintenance	\$6,000.00	
Total - Executive Lawn Service		\$21,000.00
Town of Manchester: Mowing; Leaf & Snow Removal	\$6,500.00	
Town of Manchester - Water Department	\$3,000.00	
Franks Landscaping - Irrigation Maintenance	\$1,500.00	
Green Carpet - Lawn Fertilization	\$3,000.00	
Misc.	<u>\$500.00</u>	
		\$14,500.00
Capital Improvements: Headstone Cleaning & Straighten		\$5,000.00
 TOTAL EXPENSES:		 <u><u>\$77,500.00</u></u>

We recently installed two granite benches on footings and Carol is having plaques made. We would like to continue research on hardscaping around the gate- it is always a mud patch. Rick has started with costing and Carol thinks it will enhance the cemetery. We would also like to create a space for green burial which will require the removal of stumps and bushes to make it suitable. At the last meeting we talked about offering green burial and through the survey our members agree. K. Dexter mentioned that there are even more developments with green burial including a cryogenic variety.

A motion will be made by Rick Cheney to accept the grounds budget via email.

A 2023 donations proposal was presented by Carol. This proposal has already been accepted by the Donations Committee: Kate, Tom, K. Dexter and Carol. The committee has met and decided that it makes sense to stick with our current roster of organizations, which represent our interest in supporting arts and education.

To: Donations Committee:
Kate Chappell
K. Dexter Cheney
From: Carol Cheney
Re: 2024 Family Fund Distribution Plan
Date: 3/18/24
Allocation available: \$25,891.85

Thanks for getting back to me about the proposed distribution for 2024. Following Kate's suggestion, I have increased the gift to MHS for the Homestead roof and reduced the gift to the Firemen's Society.

As I have in the past, I will be asking our grantees for a description of the purpose and impact of our gifts and will let them know the amounts we intend to distribute.

4000	Cheney Homestead (MHS)
5000	Manchester Community College Endowed Scholarship
2000	Howell Cheney Technical High School Awards
3500	Mary Cheney Library
2500	Hartford Artisans Weaving Center
2500	Connecticut Museum
2500	Wadsworth Atheneum
1000	Little Theatre of Manchester
1000	UConn Library Archives
1000	MHS Sculpture Project
750	Connecticut Firemen's Society

\$25,750 TOTAL (\$141.85 remainder carryover)

Austin suggested the possibility of creating a grant with the UConn Library to write a narrative of Cheney Brothers, perhaps identifying an individual who may be interested. Andrea is currently seeking a master's degree in history and will need to write a thesis next summer so perhaps this could be something she undertakes. Kate suggested reading the chapter on Cheney Brothers in the book, "Yankee Dreamers and Doers".

Austin made a motion to approve the budget for 2024 donations. Kristin seconded and all were in favor.

It has been agreed by all that moving money to the Family Fund is not a good idea. Regarding succession, Kristin and Carol are moving forward with identifying solutions. Jerry suggested Robinson & Cole to discuss the non-profit formation and how it will live on without a family member as President. All agree that the physical management of the cemetery is important. Our relationship with the probate court in Manchester may be something worth researching. Space at the machine shop in Manchester could be used to store our files. Andrea expressed interest in managing the finances for the cemetery.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55.