

APPROVED

RIDGEFIELD GRAVEYARD RESTORATION COMMITTEE

MARCH 16, 2026 6PM RIDGEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

PRESENT: Sara Champion, Kevin Claegens, Ian Dow, Michael Harrington, Susan Law, Tom McManus, Nancy Selander, Sarah Slavin

EXCUSED: Susan Kweskin

HONORAY MEMBER: Joel Third

Chair Nancy Selander called the meeting to order at 6 PM

Ian Dow was welcomed as the newest member to the Committee.

MINUTES: Sarah Slavin motioned for approval of the January 29, 2026 minutes. All approved except Tom McManus and Kevin Claegens who abstained.

LIAISON WITH THE SEXTONS: No reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Tom stated his decision to remain on the Committee.
2. The sign for Ridgebury Cemetery just needs to add Tom Keane's name as sexton. He will be contacted as to what phone number he wishes to list. A new sign for Branchville Cemetery needs to be made. Nancy will contact the Town to proceed.
3. The Open House at Branchville Cemetery to begin to record gravesite's ownership will be held on June 14, at the Cemetery. Kevin, Sara C., Ian, Nancy and Susan L. will be available to help. Various ways of publishing this event were discussed. Ian questioned if offering some genealogical help with tracing family histories might help. Nancy said she could ask Toni McKeon about this.
4. The Spring Cemetery Clean-Up will be Saturday, March 28th at 9 AM. Sara C. offered to notify the local DAR Chapter for their assistance.
5. Susan L. will work with the Historical Society, whose camera is being used, as how to correlate the pictures taken to the page numbers of our gravestone descriptions.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Susan L. presented a plan to heighten the overseeing of the pocket cemeteries. Members would work in pairs to monitor two or three cemeteries. She explained a proposed grouping of cemeteries mostly by location. Maps and points of general concern were listed. Tom offered parking suggestions and traffic hazards to be aware of. More details will follow in May.

Sarah Slavin moved to adjourn the meeting and all approved.

Susan Law, Recorder.