PRESENT: Sara Champion, George Hancock, Susan Law, Jeff Lundberg, Tom McManus, Nancy Selander, Sarah Slavin, Joel Third.

Excused: Grace Clewell.

Chair Jeff Lundberg called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

MINUTES: The minutes of September 21, 2020 were unanimously approved as written.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The plot sales at Mapleshade Cemetery are running well above last year, already at approximately $9,000. Fall Cleanup is underway and hauling away of the leaves is being negotiated. The Town budget allotment is of $20,500 nearly half spent. Several donations to the Friends of Ridgefield Community Program are greatly appreciated. With the leaves down, an assessment of the large older trees needs to be made to determine pruning work that should be completed. Thanks were given to Jeff for his work in trimming the entrance way and steps of the Ye Old Burial Ground.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Report on Cemeteries: Fall Clean-up is as needed. Branchville Cemetery is in good shape.
2. Legal Status of Branchville Cemetery: Nothing to report.
3. Mausoleum Status: The potential buyer is still interested but has taken no further steps.
4. August 2020 Storm Damage: The large fallen tree portions are still on the ground. A problem in Olde Town Cemetery is the inability of a truck getting into one of the areas. Possibly further cutting will be necessary to haul those segments out. The Highway Department is aware.
5. 2021 Tour/Lecture Topic: Due to the Covid 19 restrictions, this is temporarily on hold.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Photographic Session and Movie Filming: Both were successfully completed and both were monitored by members of the Committee.
2. Sara reported that the DAR is celebrating their 250th Anniversary and the Drum Hill Chapter is collecting the locations of the burial sites of all those who served in the Revolutionary War. She is currently exploring sources that will be of help in this undertaking.
3. Removal of spent grave site decorations will be done within the next few months.
4. Tom commented of the increased awareness of the Town’s cemeteries. Several mentions on Facebook on the “Old Ridgefield” and the “Ridgefield, CT” sites and the upcoming CONNOTOURS walking tour of Old Town Cemetery are of interest. Also, Sara commented that if the reburial of
the presumed Revolutionary soldiers remains that were discovered last December takes place in Old Town Cemetery, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution would like to take part.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 18 which is Martin Luther King Holiday. Therefore, the meeting will take place on January 25, 2021 at 4:00 PM via ZOOM.