

Barrington Cemetery Commission (Approved June 11, 2014)

The Barrington Cemetery Commission met on Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at 4:00 PM in the Meeting Room at the Barrington Public Library-Community Center.

Present: Mr. John A. MacIntyre, Jr., Chair; Mrs. Sarah P. Small, Secretary of the Commission; Mr. Robert Black; Mr. Enzly Ramsay, of Ramsay's Inc., Superintendent of Operations. Also in attendance, Mr. William DeWitt, liaison to the Barrington Town Council.

Mr. MacIntyre called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

Mr. MacIntyre moved the acceptance of the minutes of the April 9, 2014 minutes with corrections. Mrs. Small seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report:

Flag at Prince's Hill Cemetery – Mr. Ramsay has installed a small flag and will provide a larger one for Memorial Day.

Water at the Prince's Hill Cremation Garden – Mr. Ramsay said that the water sprinkler has been turned on at the columbarium and cremation garden.

Prince's Hill Section Signs – Mr. Ramsay indicated that he has received all the section signs that needing replacement at PH, including the Section Sign B>C, and plans to install them prior to Memorial Day.

Repair of Chain-link Fence at Prince's Hill – Mr. Ramsay has not asked Fence Depot in Warren for an estimate to repair or replace the one (1) damaged section of the fence along the river behind Peck Tomb, and will do so.

Mr. MacIntyre reported that the final repayment from the Barrington Cemetery Commission, to the Town of Barrington, totaling \$198,900.00 (\$195,000. plus \$3900.00 interest for the purchase of the 7 +/- acres at 135 George Street at the Seekonk/Barrington town Line, will be withdrawn from the Cemetery Commission's invested funds and repaid to the Town by June 2, 2014.

Survey editing at Forest Chapel: Mr. Ramsay is still working on editing the survey in the upper section's most used areas across the brow of the hill, beside and behind the old tomb.

Selling Graves back to town: Mr. MacIntyre has received a request from an heir of a deceased Lot purchaser, wishing to sell back to the Town what he describes as "unused and unwanted" graves which the family has decided not to use. There was discussion, and questions were posed, as deeds are written for owners and their heirs. Who are the heirs? Will all the living heirs agree to sell back the unused lots? Might the Town have responsibility to an unborn, or uninformed heir? Should the "unused" graves be probed? Should there be a "Chain of Command" rewritten into the deed? How would the town reimburse the heir(s)? What type of "sign-off" form should be necessary for an heir to sell back graves to the town?

New Fee Schedule: Mr. MacIntyre distributed a proposal to raise the price of in-ground graves from \$850.00 to \$900.00. The most recent previous raise became effective on November 1, 2012. Proposed is a 6% raise to become effective on July 1, 2014. There was discussion. Mr. MacIntyre moved and Mr. Black seconded the motion. Motion carried. A question regarding a fee for Cremation permits was raised.

New Town Website: There is a new template for the ri.gov website. Mr. Black presented a sample page regarding the Prince's Hill - Cemetery Cremation Garden and Columbarium to be included on the town website. There was discussion.

National Grid: Mr. MacIntyre and Mr. Ramsay met at the Bay Road and Nayatt Road intersection of Forest Chapel Cemetery with representatives of National Grid to view the area and learn of the proposed installation of a new pole to be set on the edge of Forest Chapel Cemetery along Bay Road. Mr. MacIntyre has requested National Grid to do physical markings on site in order for the Commission to evaluate the effect on cemetery operations.

Cremation Garden Marker designs will be discussed at a future meeting.

There will be no meeting of the Cemetery Commission in May, and the next scheduled meeting will be called for June 11, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 PM.

Sarah P. Small, Secretary