

Barrington Cemetery Commission (Approved April 9, 2014)

The Barrington Cemetery Commission met on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 3:00 PM in the School Committee Room at the Barrington Town Hall. This regular meeting followed the annual Financial Review Meeting (See separate Minutes) held in the same location beginning at 1:00 PM, as the Town Hall closes at 4:30 PM

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.

Mr. MacIntyre called the meeting to order at 2:20 PM, prior to the normal opening time as the regularly scheduled February meeting had been cancelled twice due to weather, and the Town Hall closes at 4:30 PM.

Mr. MacIntyre moved the acceptance of the January 8, 2014 minutes **as corrected.**

Mr. Black seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report:

Replace Flag at Prince's Hill - Mr. Ramsay removed the tattered Flag from the pole by the Civil War Monument at Prince's Hill. Mr. MacIntyre suggested he replace it with a small flag for the remainder of the winter and supply a large Flag in May for Memorial Day.

Prince's Hill Section Signs - Mr. Ramsay has not reset the new section signs.

Multiple Cremations in a single Grave - Mr. Ramsey suggested there would be more interest for multiple interments in a single grave as cost of space rises. Permanent liners will separate and protect each container of ashes. There was discussion of selling a single grave for one full interment plus one cremains, with an additional charge for each additional cremains in the same grave during the ensuing years. There would be space in an 8' by 4' grave for one full interment and possibly 8 cremains in permanent containers.

Tree at North End of Prince's Hill Cemetery - The owner of property abutting the northern most end of PH has indicated that branches of the large tree on the lot line may fall onto the wires leading into his house. Mr. Ramsay investigated and indicated the tree and branches appear healthy, and are distant enough from buildings so as to not cause damage. There was discussion. Mr. Ramsay will advise that the Commission does not object if the property owner wishes to remove the branches at his own expense.

Spring Clean-up: Mr. MacIntyre has asked Camilla Hemmingway, Clerk at the Town Hall, to publish a notice in the Barrington Times announcing that extraneous objects on graves should be removed by the end of March, prior to being discarded. (See attached: BT, 26 Mar. 2014, p.22)

Recording of Cemetery Funds Received: Mr. MacIntyre stated that all checks for cemetery services should be made payable to the Town of Barrington, *with notation of the purpose*, and sent to the Town Hall. Donations noted on the check, and will be deposited into the Perpetual Care Fund.

Fannins Restoration Work this summer: September storm damage of the markers of Capt. Luther Martin, Amy Martin and Wilmarth Heath, Prince's Hill, Section B would appear to be a priority. These markers were previously restored in August 2008 and August 2011. Mr. MacIntyre will

contact the Fannin-Lehner Restoration Consultants to determine their availability this summer. Mr. Ramsay will be unavailable the first week of August.

Possibility of future available land on George Street: There was discussion of possible future land use on George Street, if additional land were to become available there.

Lease of land on George Street: The renewed lease of four (4) of the seven (7) +/- acres of Cemetery owned land has been signed by Four Town Farm, who will continue to maintain the lawn in front of the vacant, brown shingled, house.

Resetting of the slate footstone of Renew Carpenter at Knockum Hill- Barrington Preservation Society Vice President Nathaniel Taylor, indicates that the BPS is custodian of the “‘footstone’ of Renew Carpenter, who died in 1703” and is buried in “Nockum Hill.” In a Jan. 14th email, Mr. Taylor asked the protocol for returning and resetting grave markers that have ‘gone astray’. Mrs. Small will inquire at the next meeting of the RI Historic Cemetery Commission meeting. The entrance to Knockum Hill Cemetery (BA007) is through a padlocked yellow chain off Fall River Avenue, Swansea at the intersection at New Meadow Rd., Barrington. Mr. Ramsay has two (2) keys to the padlock for ease of maintenance of this Cemetery.

Promotion of Columbarium and Cremation Garden: There was discussion of ways to promote both the sale of Columbarium and Cremation Garden space in Prince’s Hill and in Forest Chapel.

Creation of Online Brochure: There was discussion of creating a Barrington Town Cemetery website and who would maintain it.

Pamphlet for Town Clerk’s Office: There was discussion of creating a “pick-up,” reference-type pamphlet for public distribution including the active Barrington Town cemeteries, cemetery items, and general services available. This might be helpful as a “hand-out” by the Superintendent and at the front counter in the Town Clerk’s Office, for those interested in possible purchase of space for Final Disposition.

Scanning and mapping Services and Contractors: Mr. Steve Murgo has completed surveying Forest Chapel Cemetery showing existing bound markers. Mr. Ramsay said he will edit the survey, documenting grave space with less than standard 4’ by 8’ dimensions, as soon as the snow melts and ground thaws.

Remaining Use of Forest Chapel Cemetery and Adding Graves: Mr. MacIntyre indicated there are approximately 446 unsold graves on the existing survey at Forest Chapel.

Mrs. Small reported a new “Barrington Historical Cemetery BA003” (Forest Chapel) sign, pole and fasteners is completed, and is at the RIDOT Highway Maintenance Building and Sign Shop, Lincoln St., Warwick. She arranged for Mr. Ramsay to pick up same Friday morning, March 14th.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Sarah P. Small, Secretary

