

BCC Min 2015. 07-08 Barrington Cemetery Commission (approved Sep t. 9, 2015)

The Barrington Cemetery Commission met on Wednesday, July 8, 2015 at 3:00 PM in the Meeting Room at the Barrington Public Library-Community Center. Present: Mr. Robert Black; Mrs. Sarah P. Small, Secretary of the Commission; Mr. Enzly Ramsay, Superintendent of Operations. Mr. Steve Primiano, liaison to the Town Council, was absent. Also present: Ms. Susan L. Taylor, cemetery volunteer and Mr. George Champlin, Adams Point Road, Barrington.

1. Mrs. Small called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm, announcing that Mr. John A. MacIntyre had resigned from the Commission effective at the last Town Council meeting in June, noting the many years of service he had given to the Cemetery Commission. Mr. Black indicated that a letter from Mr. MacIntyre indicated he was willing to continue to update the Cemetery Spreadsheet he developed from the original 4 inch by 6 inch Lot Cards stored in the Town vault. (Letter attached.) Mrs. Small moved and Black seconded a motion that Mr. MacIntyre be asked to continue to maintain and update the Cemetery Spreadsheet, and bill the Commission at a mutually agreeable hourly rate. Motion carried. (Letter attached)

2. Adoption of Minutes:

Mr. Black moved that the Minutes of the May 13, 2015 meeting be adopted as presented. Mrs. Small seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Small moved the approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on June 10, 2015 at 1:00 PM with Mr. Ted Dooling of Boston Computer Scanning, which were prepared by Mr. Black. Mr. Black seconded the motion for approval with typographical corrections. Motion carried. Mrs. Small thanked Mr. Black.

Mrs. Small moved the approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 10, 2015, with corrections. Mr. Black seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. Superintendent's Report:

Damage to Watson Memorial Marker at Watson Yard on or about June 26-27th: One of three sections of a large locust tree on Town property outside the west wall of the cemetery, fell on the Watson Memorial dislodging the memorial tablet from the base, and breaking off and damaging the cap of the memorial, which fell to the ground. (Photos attached) Mr. Ramsay has had the branches inside the cemetery wall cut up and removed. He indicated that the remaining sections of this tree are rotted, but are leaning away from the cemetery.

PH Section E - Pine Tree for removal: Mr. Ramsay indicated there is a large pine tree with orange tape next to the Town Hall parking lot, which is in danger of falling. It will need to be "roped down" professionally, lacking space to fall it safely. Currently there is a hawk (or other bird) nest in the tree. Mrs. Small moved and Mr. Black seconded a motion that Mr. Ramsay have the tree removed when the fledgling(s) has flown, at a cost not to exceed \$1600.00.

Forest Chapel plantings: Mr. Ramsay has reviewed plantings around markers at FC Cemetery and indicated that many have become overgrown and are currently not cared for by descendants. The resulting overgrowth makes mowing, and other maintenance, difficult. Current BCC Rules and Regs, #15 and #16 adopted Dec. 2014, spell out the regulations for plantings on Grave Lots:

#15. Permitted plantings are restricted to annuals or perennial flowers provided the planting(s) is confined to a space at the head of an in-ground standard size interment (grave) one foot from the front of the marker or stone and not exceeding the width of the marker or stone. No planting in the ground is permitted at lawn-level markers or stones. However, cut flowers, wreaths, or movable containers may be

accepted. The Cemetery prohibits borders which may interfere with proper mowing, as well as the use of objects of glass, ceramic, wood or metal which are considered inappropriate or dangerous to the maintenance of the grounds.

#16. The Commission or Superintendent of Cemetery Operations shall have the right to cause the removal from cemetery space any item, floral decorations, monumental structures, effigies or inscriptions, the retention of which in their judgment shall be dangerous, improper, inconvenient or detrimental to the appearance, condition or maintenance of the cemetery.

However, some Lot owners *may prefer* to allow the Commission to remove their overgrown shrubs at Commission expense. Discussion will follow at a future meeting.

Unknown letter dated June 22, 2015:

Mr. Black presented a copy of a letter indicating it is from the Cemetery Commission and describing procedure and payment for engraving on Columbarium doors. There is no signature. Mr. Black will seek information on the author of the letter and to whom it was sent. (Letter attached)

4. Fannin Restoration Work at Tyler Point:

Jim and Minxie Fannin will be restoring grave markers at Tyler Point from Monday, Aug. 10 through Friday, Aug. 14, 2015.

Mr. Ramsey reported he will provide sufficient competent labor, a tarp/tent as a sun/rain shield, and a generator. He will also ask Mr. Al Elson of the adjacent Stanley Marina, if cemetery workers may use the Marina restrooms, in addition to attaching our hoses to the Marina water supply.

Minxie Fannin reported to Mrs. Small that volunteers Maureen Byrne of Warwick, and Jim Lawrence of Tiverton are expected to volunteer help again during the Aug. 10th week. BCC volunteer Susan Taylor plans to help also.

5. Obtaining Proposal for Digitalizing and Scanning Cemetery Records:

Mr. Black has been in contact with Mr. Ted Dooling, of Boston Computer Scanning to arrange convenient viewing of BCC records in order to gather information from the Commission, and Commission related information in the Town Clerks Office, the size of the job, and the materials to be scanned and/or stored, in order to prepare a proposal to the Commission. Mrs. Small feels strongly that the Secretary's Minutes and other typewritten and handwritten minutes and records of the Cemetery Commission prior to 1998 should be a first priority for scanning with emphasis on accomplishing this phase as soon as possible. Mr. Black will send the Commission's request for an information gathering session to Mr. Dooling. There was discussion. The Commission will create a list of specific needs and goals, and publish requests for proposals for the project.

6. Watson Yard:

Removal of rotted trees – In addition to the choke cherry tree on Town owned land which split, fell, and broke the Watson Memorial in May, there are two other trees on Town property outside the cemetery, which Mr. Ramsay considers cause for concern. The trees with a red tape should be removed by the Town. The locust on the west border with green tape has a dead and hanging limb which should be removed. All removed trees and limbs should be cleaned up and removed from the area. There was discussion. Mrs. Small moved that Mr. Black contact Mr. Alan Corvi, Director of Barrington DPW, and request that the Town remove all trees of little value, growing

on Town-owned property outside Watson Yard, which may be a danger to the Watson Cemetery. Mr. Black seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Repair of Watson Monument –

Mr. Ramsay reported that he has equipment to reposition the tablet on the base of the Watson Memorial in Watson Yard. There was discussion. Mrs. Small will send a photo of the damaged memorial to Jim and Minxie Fannin of Fannin-Lehner Restoration Consultants, who will be working at Tyler Point Cemetery the week of August 10th, and ask them to view the damaged cap when they arrive. Mr. Ramsay may be asked to transport the memorial cap to Tyler Point for repair by the Fannins, and returned for resetting at Watson Yard.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is August 12th, the week of Tyler Point Restoration.

Meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Sarah P. Small, Secretary