

Cemetery Board of Commissioners
Minutes
July 9, 2019

Board met in session at 7:00 p.m. in the office at Waterside Cemetery.
Present (constituting a quorum):

Richard F. Coletti, Chairman
Janet S. Merrill, clerk
Rufus L. Titus

Catherine M. Kobialka, Superintendent

MINUTES: Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of April 16, 2019 as presented.
All in favor.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Turned back \$104.28 to the Town for FY19.
FY20 Outlays ordered.
New truck is delayed until August delivery.

This Department has been very busy since March. We have had 50 burials within four months, which is an average of four per week. Normally we have a total of 100-120 per year. Still have one employee out on sick leave. Want the record to show that the remaining three employees have done an exceptional job given the circumstances. With scheduled vacations, the crew is reduced to two, sometimes only one. There has been an abnormal amount of rain making the ground so wet that winter graves along with the current burials are just now dry enough to be addressed.

Given the above, it is important to make the Board aware of a situation that occurred with the Hannaway family who interred their mother this morning in Lot #LE-9. This family was very difficult and rude to everyone including Eustis & Cornell Funeral Home. The service arrived forty five minutes late after assuring this Department they would arrive by 1:00. Some family members even made derogatory comments graveside regarding "Town workers". These comments were intentionally made within earshot of the crew assisting the family. All agree that this was unfortunate and unnecessary.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding the Sale of Lots Fund. Superintendent has been thinking of waiting on developing Locust East and use the funds to restore the hourglass pool.

Rufus would rather see the walk and stairs at the chapel repaired. Superintendent to put this on the list to try to repair from working budget so we don't have to put it in FY21 budget.

Board to think about Pool vs Development and table until next meeting. In the meantime, Rufus suggested inquiring about the Shattuck Fund. Superintendent did speak to Becky Curran some time ago regarding same and was told that we are not eligible. Will inquire again.

7/9/2019 continued

Janet researches what other Cemeteries are doing. The following were discussed:

Some cemeteries rent goats to take care of invasive weeds etc. Waterside does not really have any areas that might need this.

Green burial has also become very popular. We do require cement liners or vaults in this cemetery. We have only had one request for a green burial about 15 years ago and family opted for a local woodworker to make a pine box for burial. Cannot recall if we still required a liner.

Found a cemetery that allows dog walking for a fee. Some time ago the Board voted for new signs to prevent dogs from coming into the cemeteries. The reason for the signs was due to complaints from lot owners regarding dogs doing their business where their loved ones are interred.

Richard would like a letter of thanks drafted to the abutters of Old Burial Hill who put flowers in the holders on the wall at the foot of the new stairs. Motion made and seconded.

VOTED

OLD BUSINESS:

Bench at end of Maple Ave. complete. MacAulay family very pleased.

Fence at Green Street Cemetery was repaired by DPW shortly after reported to Art Graves after being damaged during snow removal.

Next meeting, Tuesday, October 8, 2019

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:50

Janet S. Merrill, clerk