
MINUTES

PROVINCETOWN CEMETERY COMMISSION

SEPTEMBER 7th, 2017

Present: Michael Harpie (Chairman), Richard Olson, Jack Kiefer

Absent: Susan Avellar, Kurt Reynolds, Ruth Anne Cowing

The Meeting convened at 3:05pm.

1. Minutes: The minutes of the August 3rd, 2017 meeting were approved.

2. Cemetery Plot Sales: There were no plots sold.

3. Winthrop Street Cemetery Restoration Project: We are hopeful to wrap up this project by the end of the month.

Remaining items to be addressed are: The finish on the HC rails for the benches was not in accordance with the architectural specifications. Apparently, the contractor decided that their own finish, applied in the field, would suffice. The rails were rejected by the DPW.

Correctly finished rails will be installed by the contractor when the order is received. We will ask the DPW to remove the wooden post trail markers that were installed, as they do not seem to be clearly marking any trail, nor do we feel that they look appropriate. The DPW has agreed that these can be removed very easily without disturbing any surrounding areas. After completion, we will have them removed and in the future, we will look into the possibility of installing more appropriate markers. The DPW will also complete their small punch list of items noted on our prior walkthrough with Rich Waldo and the Architect, including installing the signage which they are storing. The missing "MOTHER" stone has not been located despite the diligent efforts of Brian Cowing, DPW and Tom Steele of the VFW. Our intent is to back charge the contractor for the missing stone, as we feel it was most likely buried due to the lack of professionalism, care, and attention during the project. I will be speaking further with Michelle Jarusiewicz to learn the correct procedure to back charge the contractor. Members of the VFW and American Legion are poised to express their concerns to the town and possibly to the public if the matter is not resolved satisfactorily.

4. Gifford and Hamilton Cemeteries: Michelle Jarusiewicz stated that the bids should go out the "next week or so". I expressed our concerns that it is imperative that the work should be done without interruption by the weather prior to winter, and that the price we were quote will increase as does the time that is going by.

5. Alden Street Cemetery, Old Section - Same as above.

6. Alden Street Cemetery, New Section – No current issues. When the project proceeds with the Gifford and Hamilton Cemeteries, I will try to incorporate some new signage (no dogs, mopeds, cemetery hours, etc.) as the existing signs are in need of replacement. We will also the DPW to re-install a granite post near the intersection of Standish Ave. to prevent vehicle from driving through the cemetery and possible driving over graves if there is two way traffi

7. Cemetery Finances: We will speak with the Town Treasurer to ask that a check be sent to pay as much as possible to the printer for the cemetery brochures. It is our goal to pay them full, if possible. We still owe the printer \$1,650.00.

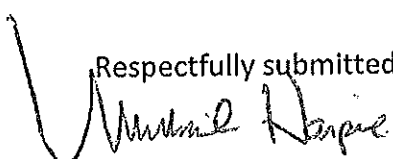
8. Revolutionary War Memorials: These exceptional memorials will be on display for the pu over the Veteran's Day weekend. Amy McGuiggan will be at the Memorial Service and has k asked to speak. The VFW and American Legion will be in front of Town Hall accepting donat and giving out Remembrance Poppies. I ask that any members of the Cemetery Commissio volunteer to hand out poppies and accept donations, as well. If you can make time to do so, will coordinate details during our October meeting which will be scheduled prior to that weekend. Also, consensus seems to be to aim for a dedication ceremony on Patriot's Day to dedicate these beautiful plaques at the Winthrop Street Cemetery.

9. Other Business: Jack suggested that we set up a space at the fire station near Town Hall ask for donations for the Cemetery Brochures and the Cemetery Commission so we could increase our funds. It's a great idea. If we can use the space, we will need volunteers. I will report on this at our October meeting. Perhaps a possible date to "tie in" a cemetery theme would be around Halloween, or maybe even on Veteran's Day weekend, if we can get enou volunteers. Please be prepared to share your input/availability at our next meeting. We received a request for membership from Mr. Donald Whitcomb, along with several pag historical information which I have attached. Although we do not have an opening on the Commission, I get the feeling that he may be a valuable asset, so I will inform him that we would welcome his attendance at our meetings until such time as there is an opening.

10. Date of next regular meeting: Set for Thursday, October 5th, 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael P. Harpie, Chairman