

*****NOTICE*****

*****OPEN TO THE PUBLIC*****

PERU CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, September 05, 2023. Meeting begins at 3:00pm

Peru Community Center, 3 E Main Rd, Peru, MA 01235

Agenda

1. Call to order, Roll call
2. Acknowledgement of meeting recording status.
3. Finalization of minutes from the September 10, 2022 meeting
4. Discussion and Vote to Re-Organize the Cemetery Commission
5. Updates on recent activity / requests regarding the cemeteries – D. Darby
6. Review of South Cemetery mapping and Tombstone Inscription Book
7. Discussion to re-start activity for updating Cemetery Rules
8. Info Pass: Potential meeting with Dan Kaufman, volunteer from the Hinsdale Cemetery in Oct. / Sept.
9. Planning for next Cemetery Commission activities or next Cemetery Commission Meetings
10. Any Other Business
11. Adjourn Meeting

Official Posting: Peru Town website: www.townofperuma.com

Posted August 28, 2023 @ 9:50 am,

Kim A Leach

Town Clerk





CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 5, 2023

Present: Jim Kenney, Chairman
Darryl Darby, Member/Cemetery Sexton
Gladys Wheeler, Member

- The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm. Roll call was taken.
- Acknowledgement of meeting recording status – This meeting was not recorded.
- Finalization of minutes from the September 10, 2022 meeting: Minutes were finalized and the signed version will be provided to the Town Clerk.
- Discussion and Vote to Re-Organize the Cemetery Commission: J. Kenney was nominated to continue chairing this commission. Assent was achieved with a 3-0 vote in favor.
- Updates on recent activity / requests regarding the cemeteries – D. Darby reported that over the last year there have been a number of traditional burials as well as the interment of cremains. Each has gone as expected.
- Review of South Cemetery mapping and Tombstone Inscription Book: J. Kenney reviewed the revised mapping of South Cemetery and the alignment of the draft Tombstone Inscription Book to that mapping. A few remaining issues need to be resolved before proofreading and finalization of this section with the index. As part of the mapping process, it has become obvious that the driveway from the west gate comes very close to a grave marker, especially if a turn is being considered to exit the cemetery by the east gate. Members agreed to planting low growing perennial plants near that grave marker.
- Discussion to re-start activity for updating Cemetery Rules: Members were reminded that the 1975 Cemetery Rules are in effect. This fact is supported by the Town Clerk. The 1994 Cemetery Rules document is a draft that was never voted on at during an Annual Town Meeting. Members agreed that updating the town's Cemetery Rules should be restarted. The 1994 draft contains some verbiage which will be considered for incorporation. Members agreed to review Cemetery Rules from surrounding towns to determine content for discussion, such as green / composting burials as well as burials on private property.
- Potential meeting with Dan Kaufman, volunteer from the Hinsdale Cemetery in Oct. / Sept.: Members were supportive of a casual conversation with Mr. Kaufman to understand what Hinsdale is doing for its cemeteries. J. Kenney to propose a date / time.
- Any Other Business: By way of update, since the last meeting was held awhile ago, J. Kenney reported:
 - The Commission has been notified that a donation of fencing will be made. This section of fence will be along the front of South Cemetery and installed between the west gate and the closest corner. The timing for this work remains to be decided.
 - New signs have been placed in Center, North and South Cemeteries.
 - The new flagpole for Center Cemetery has been received and will be erected as time allows.
 - Members were reminded that there are two open positions on the Cemetery Commission and asked to talk-up involvement with friends and neighbors.
 - The updates concluded with a brief review of contacts made from folks outside of town who were inquiring about burials made in town.

- Planning for next Cemetery Commission activities or next Cemetery Commission Meetings: The next meeting will be scheduled on a Monday, early in October to accommodate schedules
- Adjourn Meeting at 4:35pm

Respectfully approved and submitted:

James Kenney, Chairman: James P. Kenney

Darryl Darby: Darryl Darby

Gladys Wheeler: Gladys M. Wheeler

Date: 10/9/23

RECEIVED
OCT 30 2023
Kim Leach
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF PERU