



CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2024

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

- The meeting was called to order at 10:00am. Roll call was taken
- Acknowledgement of meeting recording status – This meeting was not recorded.
- Finalization of minutes from the June 3, 2024 meeting. - Minutes were finalized and the signed version will be provided to the Town Clerk.
- Updates on recent activity / requests regarding the cemeteries – D. Darby reported that no burials have occurred since the last meeting but that a military marker has been placed on A. Bongini's grave in South Cemetery.
- Proposal to expand South Cemetery – D. Darby reminded the other members that the owner of the property adjacent to South Cemetery has filed a forestry plan to allow timber harvesting and has inquired if the town would be interested in acquiring 0.5 acre to expand the cemetery. This would more than double the size of the cemetery. Commission members agreed that D. Darby should follow-up with the land owner to better understand the details proposed for the sale of the land and what work may be required for a land transfer.
- Inquiry on Green Burials – A town resident inquired in August through the town website by e-mail regarding the possibility of green burials. The response informed the resident that the Cemetery Rules were updated in 2024 and that green burials were purposely not addressed since Commissioners are not familiar with current practices. However, at this meeting, Commissioners did agree to review practices in other towns so that this topic can be addressed in an update to the Cemetery Rules. There is clear agreement to include the Board of Health in these discussions as well as the resident making the inquiry.
- Update: Clean-up of the South Road Extension Cemetery – This activity has not gotten the attention it deserves. The work should begin in the Fall since permission was granted by the landowner.
- New Item: Revisit the Cemetery Commission Mission Statement – This topic was deferred because the Mission statement could not be viewed on the monitor in the Community Center and paper copies were not available.
- Plans for meeting with Dan Kaufmann, Hinsdale Cemetery Commissioner / Topics for discussion – This topic has taken a back-burner in recent months. J. Kenney will take responsibility for arranging the discussion.
- Discuss selection for Friends of the Cemetery Commission acknowledgment: Members agreed who will be recognized in the next Live Wire edition.
- Any Other Business –
 - Members are interested to make Cemetery Rules available to the families of townspeople who pass away. G. Wheeler has offered to draft a message that can be sent along with the Rules for the Commission to consider at a future meeting. This approach would help families better understand the process used in town and ensure record keeping remains current.
 - The Highway Department has erected a new flagpole in Center Cemetery. Many thanks go to Justin Russel and the crew.

- Planning for next Cemetery Commission activities or next Cemetery Commission Meetings – The next Cemetery Commission meeting is planned for October 14 at 10:00am
- Adjourn Meeting at 11:15am

Approved and submitted:

James Kenney, Chairman: James P. Kenney

Darryl Darby: Darryl Darby

Gladys Wheeler: Gladys M. Wheeler

Date: 10/14/24.

RECEIVED
OCT 29 2024
Kerr Leach
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF PERU