

*****NOTICE*****

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

PERU CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, March 31, 2025. Meeting begins at 10:00am

Town Hall 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 October 14, 2024 meeting
4. Updates on recent activity / requests regarding the cemeteries – D. Darby
5. Discuss process to confirm previous residency for those requesting burials in Peru
6. Updates on any discussions regarding an expansion of South Cemetery – D. Darby
7. Continue discussion regarding communication of Cemetery Rules to families of recently deceased
8. Continuation of discussions regarding inclusions of Green Burials in cemetery practices.
9. Refamiliarize ourselves with the Cem Comm budget endorsed at 2024 ATM
10. Planning for next Cemetery Commission activities or next Cemetery Commission Meetings
11. Any Other Business
12. Adjourn Meeting

Posted on March 26, 2025 @ 11:40am

Kim A Leach

Town Clerk

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



CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 31, 2025

RECEIVED

MAY 05 2025
Kim Leach
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF PERU

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

Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00am. Roll call was taken
2. Acknowledgement of meeting recording status – This meeting was not recorded.
3. Finalization of minutes from the October 14, 2024 meeting. - Minutes were finalized and the signed version will be provided to the Town Clerk.
4. Updates on recent activity / requests regarding the cemeteries – D. Darby reported that burials are being planned in South Cemetery for Diana Whelpley, Courtney S. and Elizabeth Wheeler and Gertrude Kusiak. One additional burial was announced in an obituary but the Sexton has not yet been contacted.
5. Discuss process to confirm previous residency for those requesting burials in Peru: The Town of Peru provides free burial plots to residents who have lived in town for at least 12 months. Members had previously agreed that residency can be confirmed by referring to town census data. This points to the importance of residents completing the annual census form provided through the Town Clerk’s Office. Beyond the census data, other less reliable sources for confirmation of residency were debated. Tax bills, for second homes for example, can be paid by non-residents. (Post-Meeting Note – The Town Clerk suggested that the Cemetery Commission provide text to be include on the Annual Street Listing Form FAQ document.)
6. Updates on new discussions regarding an expansion of South Cemetery – D. Darby reported that here was no new information since the September meeting.
7. Continue discussion regarding communication of Cemetery Rules to families of recently deceased: Members agreed that the text proposed by G. Wheeler will be used. Families contacting the Sexton to arrange for a burial will be asked to provide contact info (mailing address or e-mail address) to enable delivery of the Cemetery Rules.
8. Continuation of discussions regarding inclusions of Green Burials in cemetery practices: Discussion of this topic was postponed to a future meeting.
9. Refamiliarize ourselves with the Cem Comm budget endorsed at 2024 ATM: Members reviewed the current budget. J. Kenney will re-engage to determine best sources for the South Thompson Burial Ground granite posts, the resetting of the Brown Monument in North Cemetery and a supplier for the South Cemetery flagpole.
10. Planning for next Cemetery Commission activities or next Cemetery Commission Meetings – The next Cemetery Commission meeting is planned for Monday, April 21 at 10:00am (Post Meeting Note: The next meeting will be postponed to May 5.)
11. Any Other Business – None
12. Adjourn Meeting at 11:36am

Approved and submitted:

James Kenney, Chairman:

Darryl Darby:

Gladys Wheeler:

Date:

5/5/2025.