



Kathleen Bird
Jack Silva

TOWN OF WAREHAM

Cemetery Commissioners

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CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Thursday, December 19, 2018

Location: 8:00 A.M. – MMD, 95 Charge Pond Road Wareham, MA 02571

Roll Call:

Commissioners:	Kathleen Bird, Chairman	Present
	Jack M. Silva, Clerk	Present
Liaison officer:	Alan Slavin	Absent
Ex Officio:	David Menard, Director	Present

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M.

The minutes of November 29, 2018 were read and approved: 2-0-0

A request for the approval of a license by: Henderson, Agawam Cemetery Lot 349 grave 3 was reviewed and approved. 2-0-0

A foundation pad and flat marker was reviewed and approved by the Cemetery Commissioners for Henderson, Agawam Cemetery Lot 349 grave 3. 2-0-0

Director's Report:

The Director of Municipal Maintenance stated that there was one full burial since the last meeting and also that a portion of the Agawam Expansion is almost cleared and the department will soon begin the process of stumping trees.

A sample template for cemetery signage was reviewed by the Commissioners. The signage format and wording were accepted 2-0-0 with the stipulation that proper grammar, such as, the correction of punctuation and spelling. The signs will be posted approximately half way down from the entrance of the cemeteries, using two posts per sign.

Mr. Menard received a proposal of services by Tom Daly, Cemetery Helpful Solutions, and presented it to the Cemetery Commissioners for their review. The Commissioners discussed several projects that they could use his expertise and knowledge on such as: expansion and obligations of the cemeteries, maintenance of cemetery roads, a cemetery administration building, the research of abandoned graves after 75 years and lot transfers by heirs.

The Cemetery Commissioners revisited the request of the owner of Centre Annex, Lot 278, graves 1 and 2, which was approved 2-0-0 upon determination of the lot owner vs. the headstone purchaser. The owner of this lot, graves 1 and 2 is Elizabeth Chambers and Sandra Crispin, her daughter, is the person who ordered the headstone. Part of the policy for the installation of a headstone or marker requires the lot owner to submit paperwork acknowledging that person is indeed the lot owner and submits a copy of their identification. In this case, Ms. Chambers does not have a valid license for proof of identification, but the Commissioners stated that proof of voter registration, an invalid license or a copy of a birth certificate notarized would suffice.

New Business:

Joseph Barnicoat of Barnicoat Associated Memorials appeared before the Board of Cemetery Commissioners to discuss the time frame for the approval by the Commissioners of headstones and markers. The Cemetery Commissioners determined to allow Mr. David Menard, for a trial period of six months, to approve standard headstones and/or markers in order to allow an earlier and quicker response to the monument companies.

This determination pertains to standard headstones only, such as a 3 x1 or 2 x1, or a flat marker, anything else out of the realm of a standard headstone must be approved by the Cemetery Commissioners. Vote: 2-0-0.

Finances were discussed with the 2019 cemetery schedule being reviewed by the Commissioners. The financial information for perpetual care interest would not be released by the Town Accountant.

Some goals for the cemeteries were discussed such as:

- Using recycled asphalt to help assist with the reconditioning of the cemetery's roads
- Repairing the stone wall located in front of the Agawam Cemetery

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at the Municipal Maintenance Department, at 8:00 a.m.

Jack M. Silva
1/17/2019