

MINUTES

PROVINCETOWN CEMETERY COMMISSION

FEBRUARY 13, 2013

SPECIAL MEETING

Present: Richard B. Olson, Chairman, Greg Howe and Rev. Jim Cox.

Absent: Charles Westcott and Mark Collins.

Also Attending: David Gardner, Asst. Town Mgr.

The Meeting convened at 5:00pm.

1. Public Forum on Columbarium proposals: Our professional consultant, Martha Lyon, made a power-point presentation of the three columbarium approaches which she has previously described to us, together with a projection of total costs and per-unit costs of each alternative.

The members present (no member of the public attended) clearly favored Alternative #1, the “memory pathway” approach, which we find attractive, will not impinge on the number of burial lots in the newly laid-out section, and may be able to be financed on a pay-as-we-go basis. That is, if we are to pursue any such project at all.

The full board must discuss this, weighing the significance of the absence of public attendance at this forum. Is no one interested? – or does the public just assume we will make the right decisions?

As to the existing patchwork of cremation burials, they are within an area adjacent to the Cemetery garage, and the vehicles that park next to it, shown within a red circle in the Martha Lyon's presentation. There are approximately 30 occupied spots and some 90 to 100 unoccupied. We agreed that it looks a bit like a pauper's-field. David Gardner stated that whatever new arrangements the Town makes for DPW garaging, this Cemetery garage will remain.

The question arose whether this existing area could nevertheless be, if not quite beautified, at least improved in some ways. We also need information and projection of current and future requirements for cremation interment spaces.

2. There was no other business to come before the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard B. Olson,
Chairman and Secretary pro tem.