

## MINUTES

### PROVINCETOWN CEMETERY COMMISSION

JUNE 3, 2013

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

Absent: Charles Westcott.

Also Attending: Doug Johnstone, Town Clerk, and Ann Wood.

Election of New Member: The Chairman introduced Ann Wood, who has applied for the vacant position we have for a full time member. Filling the vacancy falls to the Commission due to the time elapsed that the vacancy has existed.

On a motion duly made and seconded, Ann Wood was unanimously elected and took her place as a member of the Commission.

1. Minutes: The minutes for the May 6, 2013 meeting were approved, Ms. Wood abstaining.
2. Approval of Cemetery Plot Sales: Our Town Clerk presented the sales of one double lot and three cremation plots, which were approved.
3. Alden Street Cemetery: Mr. Johnstone reported that the tags for the newly created plots have been delivered and will be placed by Buildings and Grounds with his assistance, by sometime in September.

As to fallen or at-risk stones, the Chairman repeated his undertaking to take up with Tony Lemme and Martha Lyon the letting of an under - \$5,000 contract for

the stones most in need based on the MCC survey.

4. Columbarium: The final report on Columbarium alternatives has been received from Martha Lyon, together with her final invoice for \$500, which completes payment of the \$5,995 authorized. The invoice was approved for payment.

Our direction now is toward improving the existing area set aside for interment of cremated remains, providing beautification and a buffer from the B&G office, garage and parking area. Mr. Howe reported that Tony Lemme, Cemetery Superintendant recommends a 6 ft. high fence with a four inch gap at the bottom to facilitate lawn mowing, built of better looking cedar or longer – lasting vinyl. The Commission chose cedar. Rev. Cox urged a row of trees as well (and Mr. Howe subsequently reports that there is at least a 5ft. border between the cremation plot area and the parking area – which might also be re-arranged – to accommodate such a solution). Mr. Collins undertook to discuss this with Tim Callis, landscaper, to get his opinion and recommendations.

5. Winthrop Street Cemetery: It was noted that competitive bids for the \$40,000 CPA grant project to restore and preserve broken or at-risk stones are due on June 13. After discussion it was agreed that we might have a special meeting after that to review the bids and discuss next steps, and further agreed that such a meeting might replace the regular July meeting.

As to the proposed Smallpox Memorial, Mr. Olson circulated photos he had taken in Boston in the historic Old Granary and King’s Chapel Burial Grounds, illustrating various traditional designs, including a form of raised “ledger stone”, that would accommodate the bronze plaque we have in mind (and also examples of signage for the entire Winthrop Street project). He further reported that on Thursday he will visit the Cape Cod Stone Company in Orleans to compare our ideas and theirs.

6. Amended Cemetery Rules and Regulations: The Chairman reported that these have been approved by the Board of Selectmen.
7. Cemetery Finances: Mr. Howe reported on his review of Tony Lemme’s records of receipts for sales of lots and contributions to the Perpetual Care

Trust Fund, which appear not to have been properly deposited during the years when the Commission was in abeyance. Mr. Olson undertook to review and bring to attention of proper authorities in Town Hall.

8. Membership: The election of Ann Wood leaves us still in need of a full-time member when Charles Westcott retires.
9. Other Business: The completion by the Municipal Information Services (MIS) and the Town Clerk of the cyber-mapping, re-numbering and properly recording of lots and owners in our Alden Street Cemetery deserves our great thanks, and a recent article in the Banner has brought highly favorable attention to all concerned. The Commission voted to send our thanks to Lynn Martin, Connie Tavanis and Dan Faris, and to Doug Johnstone, Town Clerk, for their initiative and diligence in this important undertaking.
9. Next Meeting: The date of the meeting was tentatively set for July1, subject to the foregoing discussion of holding a special meeting in the meantime.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard B. Olson,  
Chairman, and Secretary pro tem.