

MINUTES

PROVINCETOWN CEMETERY COMMISSION

OCTOBER 6, 2014

Present: Richard Olson, Chairman, Greg Howe and Susan Avellar.

Absent: Mark Collins and Jim Cox.

Also Attending: Tony Lemme, Cemetery Superintendent, Doug Johnstone,
Town Clerk.

The meeting convened at 2:05 pm.

1. Minutes: the minutes for the September 2, 2014 meeting were approved.
2. Approval of Cemetery Plot Sales: There was one plot sale to approve, the first in the newly laid out Alden Street section, which, sale with waiver of the full strictness of the two year residency requirement on account of many summer residencies in the Town and current residence at Seashore Point, was so duly approved.
- 3(a). Gifford and Hamilton Cemeteries: The MCC needs assessments for Gifford and Hamilton and cost estimates, together with MCC's cost estimate for a needs assessment for stone preservation at the Street Old Section, are all to be included in our CPC grant application, for a total of \$72,000.
- 3(b). Alden Street Cemetery: Regarding railings and signage along the roadways and at the corners within the cemetery, Tony Lemme reported that needed trimming has been going on (and that, such work greatly needs to be done at the edges of the Gifford and Hamilton sections) and that he is planning repairs to the granite and pipe railings that already exist along Alden Street and Cemetery Road. Now it remains to install the same sort of railings at least at some corners of the roadways within the cemetery, to prevent intrusion by service vehicles and by cars of attendees at interments - while at the same time allowing reasonable access for hearses and cemetery maintenance vehicles. Mr. Howe brought up the

need for renewed overgrowth clearing at Winthrop Street, and Mr. Lemme assured that the DPW would undertake it.

4 Improvement of section for Cremated Remains: Mr. Lemme reported that the buffer zone between this and the DPW activities and shed has been cleared to allow the installation of the shielding arbor barrier - welcome news indeed ! Mr. Johnstone reported that the planting of 9 cedars, which would best be done in the spring, and increasing their delivered size to 9' - 12' (eliminating the need for a temporary barrier fence) would add \$1,000 to the \$3,000 already appropriated from the Expendable Portion of the Perpetual Care Trust Fund. This plan, including the additional appropriation, was approved.

5(a) Winthrop Street Cemetery Restoration Project: The Chairman reported that there was no result to announce regarding the RFP for design work for Phases 3, 4 and 5. (Subsequent up-date : The award will be made to RDLA : Ray Dunetz Landscape Inc., who, of the two proposers favored by the Steering Committee, made the lower bid at \$20,500.) Michelle Jurusiewicz is working on the contract for approval, first by our Commission and then by the Board of Selectmen. These are funds already granted by the CPC.

5(b) Smallpox Memorial: The Chair reported that \$4,700 has been donated, which is perhaps more than sufficient, he has given the go ahead to Cape Cod Stone to create the monument, and a dedication can be planned for the spring.

6 Cemetery Finances: The report from the Director of Municipal Finance as of 9/30/14 was distributed and is enclosed for members not attending.

7 Standish Avenue "Footpath" Problem: Mr. Lemme reported that considerable DPW efforts and resources have been put into filling the rut, deploying hay, re-grassing and fencing, together with signage enjoining respect from would - be pass - through persons. Mr. Olson suggested the route might actually be an attractive "visitors" pathway, but Mr. Lemme responded that there was real danger to the physical integrity of the very old graves that it passes over. Decision: Let the grass grow and look at the situation again.

8 Status of Above-Ground Interment: Mr. Johnstone reported that it has been completed, but there was a consensus that on the next proposed occasion there should be a pre-approval agreement as to time of completion and perhaps a required posting of bond.

9 Brochure Project: Brief discussion.

10 Other Business: Doug Johnstone reported on a suggestion by Lynn Martin of the Town's MIS to create a means to mesh the Town's cemetery data base with private researchers. The suggested cost might be \$6,000. Responded that it would not be high on our priority list at this time.

Noted that the Commission very urgently needs new members. We must think !

Parking scarcity for members attending our meetings at Town Hall. Should we meet at the Community Center (former Elementary School) ?

11 Next Regular Meeting: Set for Monday, November 3, 2014, at 2pm.

The Meeting adjourned at 2.45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard B. Olson

Chairman and Secretary pro tem.