

**Princeton Cemetery Commission Meeting – Monday September 10, 2018
Town Hall Annex - Small Meeting Room
Minutes**

October 11, 2018

Present: Charlie Steele, Lou Trostel, Paul Constantino, Greg Miranda, Ron Milenski and Cemetery Superintendent, Bill Bergstrom.

The Cemetery Committee members: Charlie Steele, Paul Constantino, Greg Miranda and Ron Milenski made an inspection of North Cemetery at 6:30 P.M. The meeting then commenced at the Town Hall Annex – Small Meeting Room.

Walk Thru – Review/Issues /Projects/Goals

North Cemetery:

- A. The cobblestone pathway requires significant maintenance and repair to correct the washouts/erosion problems and the stabilization and releveling of the cobblestones. The Cemetery Superintendent is scheduled to provide an update regarding repair of the cobblestone pathway at the meeting this evening.

- B. Member Constantino reaffirmed that he would like to continue discussions with the Princeton Electric Light Department regarding the removal of the support utility pole located at the left front of North Cemetery. He recommended that Cemetery Superintendent, Bergstrom schedule a site visit with Brian Allen, General Manager of PMLD to discuss this issue.

- C. The committee members determined that it would be prudent to postpone the installation of the illuminated flagpole until the cobblestone pathway repairs are complete. Additionally, the previously planned site work to level and develop cremation lots at the lower left section of the cemetery would affect the flagpole installation and location. Both of these items needed to be sorted out before the installation occurs. The location of the illuminated flagpole will be determined at a future time.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Steele at the Town Hall Annex – Small Meeting Room at 7:00 P.M.

Welcome – New Member, Greg Miranda

Chairman, Steele, introduced Greg Miranda to the group. All members “Welcomed” Greg and mentioned that they appreciated his membership and participation.

Review of Cemetery Walk Thrus and Project/Maintenance Items

Chairman, Steele led a discussion related to the items that were identified by the members during the cemetery inspection of North Cemetery (Recorded Above).

Review of August 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for August 13, 2018 were reviewed.

A motion was made by Member, Trostel to accept the minutes as written.

The motion was seconded by member, Constantino.

Minutes were accepted and approved. Vote : 4 – 0. Abstained : 1

Cemetery Superintendent's Report

Cemetery Superintendent, Bergstrom reported that the repair of the cobblestone pathway at North Cemetery will be accomplished on September 13th, 14th and 15th. The work will be performed by New England Acreage Group.

Cemetery Superintendent, Bergstrom also reported that the tree work at Boylston Cemetery was completed by "Trees Unlimited". The cost was \$3,400.00. He also mentioned that the maple tree that was overhanging our neighbor's property required additional crown pruning.

Cemetery Superintendent, Bergstrom suggested that it would be logical and practical to start providing free dark mulch/compost for headstone plantings in 2019, since the growing season is almost over. All members agreed and the dark mulch/compost should be purchased in April 2019 for free use of flower plantings at all Princeton Cemeteries. The dark mulch/compost will be stored at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Cemetery Superintendent, Bergstrom reported that three cremation burials were completed at Woodlawn Cemetery during the past month.

Total Inventory of Available/Saleable Cemetery Lots/Plots – In Progress

Cemetery Superintendent, Bergstrom reported that he is working with former member, Lynne Grettum to determine the location and number of cemetery lots/plots at all cemeteries that are available for sale. He mentioned that they are making steady progress, but an accurate completion of this inventory will require additional time and effort.

Review of Princeton Cemetery "Rules and Regulations"

Chairman, Steele led a discussion utilizing prepared edits to the "Rules and Regulations", Member, Milenski noted that the fee for "Cremation Burials" was previously voted upon by the committee in the fall of 2017 and the vote passed, recommending a price increase. Ron agreed to verify the accuracy of the "Cremation Burial" vote/increase and communicate the results to Chairman, Steele. The "Rules and Regulations" will be re-edited and readdressed during the October meeting.

Member, Miranda questioned why "Cremation Burial Lots/Plots" are only allowed to utilize ground flush/flat memorial stones vs vertical memorial stones which are allowed for full body burial lots/plots. Discussion took place regarding the reason and rationalization for this existing "Rule and Regulation".

Member, Trostel made motion to remove Section IV, Item: E – "Flat Markers Only on Cremation Lots". The removal of this "Rule and Regulation" will allow compliant vertical memorials on cremation lots/plots.

The motion was seconded by member, Steele.

The motion passed. Vote : 5 – 0.

Future Use or Disposition of Cemetery Department Power Equipment

Superintendent, Bergstrom reported that the Cemetery Department power equipment has been moved to the Highway Department. The equipment will require service, since it has been stored in the cemetery building and unused for several months. No plan has yet to be established regarding the future utilization or disposition of the Cemetery Department's power equipment.

Memorial Stone Damage and Repair Options

Superintendent, Bergstrom reported that he is planning to accurately indentify and record the locations of the damaged memorial stones at each cemetery and store these memorial stones in the utility building at Woodlawn Cemetery. Bill noted that by storing these memorial stones in the building it would reduce further deterioration and damage to these stones. He also plans to investigate repair options and estimated cost of these repairs.

Service Recognition for Former Member, Lynne Grettum

All members agreed to acknowledge former member, Lynne Grettum for her significant service to the Cemetery Commission with a gift certificate and "Thank You" card. Secretary, Milenski will purchase the gift certificate and card and complete the mailing to Lynne.

North Cemetery - Cremation Lot Expansion

Approximately 3 - 4 years ago the Cemetery Department crew cleared brush and small trees at the lower left section of North Cemetery in the anticipation of completing a project suggested by a previous Cemetery Superintendent. The project plan was to develop several cremation lots in this unutilized area. The cost to level and develop the cremation lots was \$4,000.00; quoted by a local contractor. Since that time the project has not been accomplished and the area that was cleared remains somewhat unsightly. Member, Trostel recommended that this project be completed and that this project should have a high priority on our project list.

Discussion regarding this project took place. At this time the members were not sure that adequate funds were available to complete this project. Member, Milenski suggested that a possible funding solution for this project would be to place the funding request on the next town warrant. The members agreed to place this item as a future agenda item and continue the discussion.

Next Meeting – October 15, 2018

Chairman, Steele set the time and date for the next meeting, 7:00 P.M. on October 15, 2018 at the Town Hall Annex - Small Meeting Room.

Member Milenski motioned to adjourn.

Seconded by Member Miranda.

Motion Passed: 5 – 0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 P.M.