



SPRING GROVE CEMETERY TRUSTEES MINUTES August 20, 2019

Present: Sandra Dearborn, William Canane, Dick Morrissey, Don Robb, Gail Ralston

Also Present: Dan Verrington, Foreman Spring Grove Cemetery; Jeff Cary, GIS Application Specialist; Peter Whitman, American Legion Post 8; Ken Ozoonian, Resident; Marie Cullen, Resident; Julie McDonnell, Resident

Sandra D called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

The Trustees agreed to change the order of the agenda to discuss a letter written by resident Marie Cullen dated August 6, 2019 (On file) in regards to the burial of her husband Robert who was a Veteran. Mrs Cullen states that she was not offered a plot in the Veterans section and is asking for a refund for the cost of her husband's plot.

The Trustees extended their sincere apology to the Mrs. Cullen and her family. An offer was made to disinter and relocate the grave at no cost. The Cullen family feels as though that option would be very unsettling. The Trustees discussed further and agreed that they would like to first make sure that they follow the proper procedures before approving a refund.

Gail and Don think that the Trustees should vote and decide whether to issue the refund tonight. Gail Motioned for the Trustees to support a refund. Don Robb seconded the motion. The motion was defeated 3-2.

Sandy will follow up with Director of Public Works, Chris Cronin and the DPW Business office to confirm that they have the authority to make this decision. A decision will be made at the next Spring Grove Cemetery meeting. The Trustees want to rectify and refund Mrs. Cullen for the cost of the lot(s).

A handout with current fees and information on the Veterans section will be created and distributed by employees at the Cemetery. The Trustees would like be sure that this type of situation does not come up again and would like all purchasers are aware that the Veterans section is available at no charge to Veterans.

GIS Update

Jeff Cary presented some updates to the Spring Grove Cemetery GIS site that were done by a summer intern. Two versions were presented. Jeff will email links to the Trustees and they will vote at the next meeting on when and if to go live.

Minutes

Dick Morrissey motioned to accept minutes of the May 17th meeting William Canane seconded the motion. Gail and Don abstained since they were not in attendance. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Financials

Financials were distributed and discussed.

Staff Report

Peter Whitman, representing American Legion Post 8 sent an email with pictures to the Trustees regarding the monuments and walkways in the Veterans section. The monuments and walkways are covered in weeds and algae. Sandy Dearborn asked that this get cleaned up before Veterans Day. Dan Verrington, SGC General Foreman insisted that algae and weeds would be cleaned up ASAP.

The Trustees were concerned about the standing water in the Rail bed because of the EEE risk. The Health Department was contacted but could not take any action.

Dan said the Rail bed was being regraded so that water will flow into the storm drain. Brox will be coming in to pave and wall work will be done. Trees that are coming down have been marked. Bill C. asked about a specific tree near the front entrance of the cemetery and offered to show Dan which tree after the meeting.

The Trustees asked why the new swing gate remains open? Dan V. stated that a bike rider drove into the gate and that it is being left open for safety. Sandy asked for the name of the individual that drove into the gate but Dan did not have that information.

The Trustees would like the gate locked and barrels put back in front and left there for safety reasons. The Town will look into some reflective signs to be placed on gate. Any complaints should be referred to the Trustees.

Garage/storage building on Abbot Street? Can that be taken down?

Trustees would like rock wall near old parts building restored and that entrance/exit blocked.

New Business

Sandy Dearborn is trying to schedule a time to meet with Select Board Member, Chris Huntress regarding the Cemetery Master Plan.

The trustees would like a new office instead of the garage, pamphlets and a script for employees to follow when grieving family members come in to make arrangements.

Rules and Regs. updates to be discussed

Next Meeting: TBD

Dick Morrissey motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bill Canane seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.