

EDGARTOWN CEMETERY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 17, 2015

10:00am

Present: Susan Brown – Chairman, Elizabeth Villard, Andrew Kelly-Commissioners, Jen Morgan – Superintendent, Elaine Graves – Human Resources Coordinator.

Andrew welcomed Elaine and asked if she had any questions for the Commission. She explained that, since she is new in her position, she is attending a few meetings, to see how different departments run them. Andrew asked Elaine a few questions regarding the seasonal employment situation, including the 20-week period and possible extensions. He expressed the Commissioners' and Superintendent's concerns and frustrations about the difficulty in finding employees, because of the seasonal restrictions, limited pay, no benefits, and no unemployment. Elaine asked if we had considered outside contractors, and Andrew and Jen explained that we had spoken to both Mike Donaroma and Alex Morrison, and they gave huge estimates for seasonal grounds keeping work. Elaine said we raised valid questions and points, and she will look into them.

The operating budget for FY17 was reviewed, and the Commission agreed that the only line item that needed to be increased is grounds keeping. The Commissioners requested that Jen submit the new budget, with a 2 ½% increase of \$364.00, as well as asking for a \$2,000.00 increase, both amounts being added to grounds keeping.

Liz told Susan that she needs to attend the CPA public hearing on December 3rd at 4pm, for the grant application process.

Jen reported that the Highway Dept. had been very helpful in assisting with leaf removal. They had come in several times with their

vacuum to remove piles. Jen said they suggested she ask Stuart Fuller if he would consider letting them Cemetery Dept use the vehicle, because they would not be using it for the next couple of weeks. Andrew said he would speak with Pam, to see if we could use the Parks Dept. truck with dump bed, if necessary.

Jen asked what we are doing about the NWS expansion, as the town warrant articles are due on 11/20th. Andrew said he would speak with Pam about it. Jen reported that there are probably six lots currently available on 10th Avenue.

Liz asked about the gravestone documentation project in OWS. Andrew asked where the information will eventually be posted online, and Liz said it would be on the town's site, where the Chappy information is. Liz said that she would do the work of getting the documentation on there, and asked that Jen deal with the recording of what is on the stones. Jen reported that she had spoken with someone at the MV Museum, who sent out an email to volunteers, asking if anyone was interested in helping, and two women had responded to Jen. Liza asked Jen to email her their names and contact information. Andrew said there was some confusion about the project, and also about how the graves are numbered. Jen explained that there are existing numbered maps, and that it would be more confusing to create a new numbering system, when there is one in place, and we are able to locate any grave, the way it is now. Andrew suggested a site visit, so that everyone can see what's going on, and be on the same page, and everyone agreed that was a good idea.

Meeting was adjourned.

EDGARTOWN CEMETERY DEPARTMENT
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
NOVEMBER 17, 2015

Bills paid - \$634.79

Sign Payroll -

Lots Sold - Guest (Full lot #543 – holding \$1000 deposit)
Grant (Holding ½ lot #538A)
Kidder (one plot on Chappy – received \$700)

Burials - Robichau (urn)
Kelly (urn)

Received the new deed book and deeds from daRosa's.

Slater/Potter – I've completed all necessary paperwork/documentation/transferring of burial lot cards for Allen Slater and his sister Diana, and for Mr. and Mrs. Potter. I sent them all a letter, letting everyone know records have been updated to reflect the changes, and I received phone calls from Allen, Edo, and her daughter Hatsie, all thanking me for everything.

Cemetery shed roof – I spoke with John Magnuson, and he met with me, and looked at the roof. He feels it is basically in good condition, and not very old, and that it would only involve replacing the shingles that blew off in the weather. He thought the cost might be around \$300, and said he'd have someone come over in the next couple of weeks.

Water - I coordinated with Walter Smith Plumbing and Edg. Water Company, and had the water turned for the season, in both cemeteries and the shed.

Fence – OWS fence lines along Robinson Rd and Cooke St have been finished painted. Pease's Point Way fenceline will need to be done next season.

Paul Brewer – left him a voicemail, explaining the Commissioners' decision about a fence around Tower Hill.

Brian Kennedy – Spoke with him about possibly getting help from trial court community service, for leaf removal. He said they are shorter with help than they have ever been, but that he does like working with the Cemetery Dept, and will try to get enough people to help on a few Saturdays soon. Hopefully can come in the week of 11/16th.

Upcoming deadlines – Town meeting articles - November 20, 2015
FY17 Budgets - December 15, 2015
Annual Town Reports - January 6, 2016

MV Museum - I spoke with a few people at the MV Museum, who are interested in working on the gravestone documentation project. They have many volunteers, and they sent an email out to them, to let everyone know, and gave them my contact information to find out more details. I've heard from two women who have expressed an interest.