

## BRIDPORT BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. at the Bridport Town Clerk's Office at 82 Crown Point Road in Bridport

Present: David Bronson, Paul Wagner, Mark Pumiglia and Joan Huestis

MINUTES: Joan moved, Paul seconded and the minutes of the January 4, 2018 meeting were approved.

FLAGS: David reported he has put out the new flags in the Cemeteries. He also noted some of the holes in the flag holders should be enlarged since the wood becomes swollen and makes it difficult to remove the old flags.

STUMPS: Joan reported Brian Novak is willing to chip down stumps in the Central Cemetery for at most \$750.00. Joan moved, Mark seconded and to have him do so was approved.

PINE TREES AND NORWAY SPRUCE: David reported he and David Basque met with Chris Olson, the County Forester, who looked at the condition of the four large white pine trees in the Central Cemetery. In general, Chris said they looked fairly healthy, that they probably all had some dry rot within them and that two of them were probably in worse shape structurally than the other two. The concerns include their falling down onto gravestones and damaging them. There is also concern about the large Norway Spruce behind the Congregational Church falling and damaging gravestones, which in that area have more of a type subject to being damaged. One possibility is to see whether it would be financially feasible to have the about top one-third of such trees cut off so as to reduce the chances of the wind blowing them down. David said David Basque was going to try to see whether the job corps out of Vergennes would be able to do something like that at least on the Norway Spruce.

GRAVESTONE CLEANING AND REPAIR: David reported on May 11<sup>th</sup> he went to Barre and got some information from the Granite City Tool Co. The person he spoke with also does some gravestone cleaning and repairs. The person advised using Nu-Stone cleaning solution on granite, D/2 Biological Solution on marble and other softer stones and G.C.T. Stone Epoxy to put stone pieces back together. David bought some of each (1-gallon of Nu-Stone for \$34.50, 1-gallon of D/2 for \$40.00 and about 1-pound of G.C.T. for \$29.00; plus taxes) for a total expense of \$109.71. Joan moved, Paul seconded and it was approved to reimburse him the \$109.71.

The plan is to try these products out. David moved, Mark seconded and it was approved that David Bronson be authorized to purchase supplies for cleaning and repairing gravestones, including trying to repair some gravestones just using such an epoxy product.

LOT PRICES: David reported on information he was given on some other cemeteries for individual burial lot prices as follows:

St. Genevieve Cemetery in Shoreham = apparently recently went to \$600.00

Lake View Cemetery in Shoreham = \$300.00 plus \$200.00 for a full burial and plus \$100.00 for a cremation burial

Grand View Cemetery in Addison = \$450.00 but expected to increase

For a lot outside of the new section of the Central Cemetery, we have been charging \$200.00 for a long time. In said new section the price has been \$350.00 for a full size lot and \$250.00 for a cremation size lot. Part of the reasoning has been to encourage using up lots outside of the new section. While he has been selling lots, David reported it has seemed to him that purchasers were willing to buy outside of the new section and a number of them appeared to prefer doing so. David noted that at the time certain lots were laid out in the new section many years ago, cremations were not as popular as they are today and only one of the rows laid out was for cremation sized lots. If new lots were to be laid out in the new section, David felt consideration should be given to them being for cremation sized lots on a westerly portion where slate type ledge is nearer the surface.

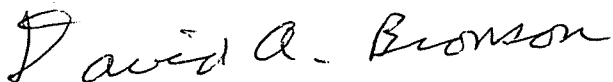
Joan moved, Mark seconded and it was approved to change prices of lots as follows: \$600.00 for a full size lot in the new section of the Central Cemetery, \$550.00 for a cremation size lot in said new section, and \$500.00 for any lot elsewhere.

David reported he knew of a few persons who had expressed a possible interest in purchasing some lots. It was the general consensus that he offer them the ability to soon purchase such lots at the old price(s).

When it comes time for the Selectboard to warn the next Annual Town Meeting, David suggested the Cemetery Commissioners consider requesting an article be included giving the voters an opportunity to decide whether or not perpetual care be continued to be collected.

MEETING ADJOURNED at about 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully,



David A. Bronson, Assistant Secretary

NOTE: Subject to later approval by the Board