

Minutes of
Bainbridge Township Cemetery Board
November 7, 2012

Present: Bill Takacs, Chairman; Jeff Markley, Township Trustee; Ted Seliga; Greg Marous, Road Department; Jim Stanek, Service Director and Linda Zimmerman, Secretary

Mr. Takacs, Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. at the Town Hall.

MINUTES

The minutes of the October 3, 2012 meeting were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Unclaimed Body

Mr. Stanek reported on the status of the unclaimed body. St. John Funeral home took care of the arrangements, the cremation has occurred and the date will be set for the service and burial.

NEW BUSINESS

Photographing Headstones

The board held a discussion regarding photographing headstones and noted that some people are opposed to the photography of headstones in cemeteries and discussed making a rule and posting it at the entrance to the cemetery.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to recommend that no photographs, rubbings or other reproductions shall be taken or captured in the Bainbridge Township cemeteries without the express written permission of the next of kin except for record-keeping purposes by the township.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Mr. Markley will forward this recommendation to the Geauga County Prosecutor's Office for review before sending it to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Green Burials

The board discussed green burials and was in agreement to research rules for green burials more thoroughly. Mr. Marous noted that there are 60 green burials in Ohio and most of them are in the southern part of the state.

OLD BUSINESS

Monuments

Mr. Marous reiterated that a family would like to replicate their old headstones because the present ones are unreadable. He explained that the new headstones will require new footers and this will probably not take place until next spring.

Cemetery Management Software

Mr. Seliga reported that Ramaker is continuing to work on the software and is finishing up the conversion from Plotfinder to the CIMS Software. He explained that they sent a list of discrepancies between the CIMS software and the old PlotFinder software. He also noted that there was an issue with the creation of the deed regarding printing the name and address of the owner and the description of the columbarium but it has been resolved.

Pet Burials

The board discussed a proposed pet cemetery and noted that Chagrin Falls Village has decided not to pursue one. The board noted that a good location has to be found for the pet cemetery first. Mr. Seliga said that he agrees with Chagrin Falls not to establish one. The board talked about the proposed cost to create one plus the maintenance costs along with the potential profit from it. It was noted that there has not been any requests for a pet cemetery in Bainbridge Township. The board was in agreement to not pursue creating a cemetery for pet burials at this time.

Dirt Storage Building

The board noted that the proposed dirt storage building is still pending.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Marous reported that the waterlines are blown out and he still has some headstone footers to install.

Drainage System and Waterlines in Restland Cemetery

The board discussed the drainage system for the old section and noted that it needs to be repaired and some of the waterlines in the new section need to be relocated. The board also talked about the mapping with the utilities layers that will be included in the new CIMS software package.

McFarland Cemetery Entrance

The board discussed the easement for the entrance to McFarland Cemetery and was in agreement that the prosecutor's office and property owner should be consulted before any action is taken. Mr. Marous said that he has not received any complaints about people not being able to access the entrance.

Since there was no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman
Secretary to Cemetery Board