

Minutes of
Bainbridge Township Cemetery Board
April 2, 2014

Present: Rob Arnold, Chairman; Ted Seliga; Bill Takacs; Lorrie Benza, Bainbridge Township Trustee; Greg Marous, Road Department; and Linda Zimmerman, Secretary

The regular meeting was called to order at 3:37 P.M. at the Town Hall by Chairman Rob Arnold.

MINUTES

The minutes of the March 5, 2014 meeting were approved as written.

NEW BUSINESS

Over-Sized Graves

Mr. Marous brought to the board's attention that there could be a need, in the future, for an over-sized grave for an individual that weighs more than the normal size. The board held a discussion that two graves would have to be purchased in the new section and the vault would be placed between the two of them. The board was in agreement that other cemeteries and funeral homes should be researched regarding over-sized burials. Mr. Marous added that some cemeteries are going to bigger gravesites.

Biodegradable Urns

Mr. Marous reported that biodegradable urns for cremations are being made that have a Pine tree seedling in them. The board discussed whether or not to permit them but was concerned about a tree growing on top of a grave and it may not fit the current cemetery standards.

Headstone Photography

The board discussed the need for the headstones at Restland Cemetery to be photographed which would be documentation in the event of any damaged headstones but also for genealogy purposes for the cemetery software. It was brought to the attention of the instructor for the special needs children who are scanning the zoning documents for archival purposes. The program director is very interested in having the children photograph the headstones in Restland Cemetery and will be contacting the Board of Trustees.

Cemetery Camera

The board discussed a need for a camera for Mr. Marous to use in the cemetery and it also would be used by the special needs children to photograph the headstones. The board made a recommendation to purchase a camera for the cemetery with the cost not to exceed \$300.00. Mr. Takacs suggested not purchasing a pocket camera and to get one with a polarizer on it that will reduce the glare.

Cemetery Software Referral System

Ramaker and Associates asked Bainbridge Township to be a reference for their CIMS Cemetery software. The board had no objection to the request if Mr. Stanek, Service Director was in agreement.

OLD BUSINESS

Widman Burial

The board discussed the lien that has been filed against the estate of Mary Widman to recover her burial costs.

Pin Locator Device

Mr. Marous will look into obtaining a pin locator device for the cemetery.

Columbarium Niche Lettering

Mr. Seliga reported that he visited Hudson Cemetery and photographed some of the niche coverings to show the board the differences between having one name or two names engraved on the niche cover. He also noted that Hudson permits symbols such as crosses, veteran and career identifications but this board already made a decision to not permit symbols of any kind on the niche covers. The board discussed the consistency of the lettering for the niche covers and felt that if the single name was centered it would give more recognition to the single name.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to recommend that if it is a dual burial we will use our standard defined lettering for the niche, if it is bought as a single niche burial, the lettering consistency will be the same but the single burial name and date will be in the upper portion with the same standard as a dual burial.

Mr. Arnold seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The board discussed if they don't letter the niche beforehand and somebody dies and it is going to be lettered, the person should have their choice assuming there are going to be two burials in the niche.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to recommend that if there is going to be two burials in a niche that the niche cover has to be either fully engraved with the two names, if they choose to only have one name at that time, the single name has to be on the top.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Tree Planting Program

The board discussed the beautification of the cemetery and the proposed tree planting program. A suggestion was made that the board should visit the cemetery next month to review a plan. Mr. Marous noted that three large trees had to be taken down in the cemetery.

Since there was no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman
Secretary to Cemetery Board