

Minutes of
Bainbridge Township Cemetery Board
October 19, 2011

Present: Ted Seliga, Acting Chairman; Rob Arnold; Jeff Markley, Township Trustee; Greg Marous, Road Department and Linda Zimmerman, Secretary

Mr. Seliga, Acting Chairman, called the special meeting to order at 3:38 P.M. at the Town Hall.

OLD BUSINESS

Columbarium Identification

The board discussed the proposed Columbarium Identification number that Sheffield Monuments has agreed to engrave on the new columbarium at no cost to the township. After some discussion the board was in agreement to not have the identification number engraved on the columbarium at this time. Mr. Marous will notify Sheffield Monuments of this change.

Columbarium Rules and Regulations

The Cemetery Board met in special session to review the Columbarium Rules that were previously discussed at the last meeting and made the following modifications.

The board reviewed Item #2 regarding the capacity of the niche and was in agreement to change it to the following: "The dimensions of a niche is 12" x 12" x 14". The content of each niche is limited to two urns for human remains only."

Item 3 - Delete - "The space for each urn is a "unit" of a niche."

The board modified Item #6 which was changed to Item #7 - "If a niche is voluntarily vacated or the right to inter is relinquished, all rights with respect to such niche revert to the township, which will refund Purchaser payments of 75% of the current fee less the cost to replace the outer panel, if engraved."

The board reviewed Item #8 which is: "The township reserves the right to refuse to accept an urn which, in its judgment, will not provide permanent interment, or will not permit use of the niche to its stated capacity, or for any other reasonable grounds." The board was in agreement to move Item #8 to the end of Item #2.

The board was in agreement to delete Item #9 - "The township will arrange for all openings and closings of niches at time of interment." This will fall under the general rules.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to approve the Columbarium Rules as amended and recommend them to the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Marous seconded that passed unanimously

The board was in general agreement to add the following to the General Rules and Regulations.

“All openings and closings must be done by authorized Bainbridge Township Personnel.”

“Request for interments must be received 48 hours in advance.”

“No interments may be made unless the body or remains is accompanied by a burial or certificate of cremation permit.”

“Rules of Conduct.”

“The interment and disinterment fees for opening and closing the columbarium will be at current fees.” It was noted that this should be included in the fee schedule and the current general rules cover the requirements for disinterments.

The board discussed the sale of graves to residents, non-residents, former residents, employees and who can be buried in already purchased graves and referred to the current Rules and Regulations. The board was in agreement that selling graves to only residents of Bainbridge Township and former residents who own property in the township are for the purposes of extending the life of the cemetery.

The board discussed separating the rules in the following manner: General Rules & Regulations; In-ground Burial Regulations; Columbarium Regulations; Fee Schedule.

Indigent Policy

The board was in general agreement to forward the Indigent Policy to the Board of Trustees for its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Footer Request by Sheffield Monuments

Mr. Marous reported that the township received a footer request from Sheffield Monuments by a former township employee who would like it installed at no charge. After some discussion, the board was in agreement to make the recommendation to not allow free footer installations and that they be installed by an authorized township employee only.

Dog Walkers

The board discussed the on-going dog walking in Restland Cemetery and was in general agreement to recommend that there be no dogs permitted in the cemetery and it should be included in the general rules of Restland Cemetery with signs posted in the front and back of the cemetery.

Sale of Graves - Employees & Former Employees

The board discussed selling graves to employees or former employees who are non-residents and was in general agreement to restrict sales of graves to employees who are non-residents or who do not meet the residency requirements.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to uphold the former motion by the Cemetery Board to restrict the sale of graves to employees who are non-residents or who do not meet the residency requirements.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Proposed Pet Cemetery

Mr. Markley suggested creating a Pet Cemetery but it would not be permitted in the existing cemetery. Mr. Arnold stated that Chagrin Falls Village is researching this concept right now. The board discussed this idea and talked about possible locations, headstones, maintenance and a pet columbarium.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held November 2, 2011 at 3:30 P.M.

Since there was no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman
Secretary to Cemetery Board