

Minutes of
Bainbridge Township Cemetery Board
December 7, 2011

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

Mr. Takacs, Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 3:38 P.M. at the Town Hall.

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 2, 2011, November 9, 2011 and November 16, 2011 meetings were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Cemetery Rules and Regulations

The board reviewed the comments from the Geauga County Prosecutor's Office regarding the proposed Cemetery Rules and Regulations for graves and columbarium niches whereby the assistant prosecutor stated that she does not believe it is permissible for the Township to restrict the purchase of columbarium niches to only certain geographical non-residents: i.e., item #6 in the Columbarium Policy, Rules, Regulations reads "Any person who, on the date of purchase, is and, for three years or more immediately preceding such date, has been a resident of Auburn Township, Aurora, Bentleyville, Chagrin Falls, Reminderville, Solon or South Russell may own a maximum of one (1) columbarium niche per family household at a non-resident rate." and noted that this restriction does not appear in the Policy, Rules, Regulations for the ownership of graves. The other comment addressed the Graves Rules and recommended modifying item #4 under the heading Landscaping and Decorations to read "The following types of landscape material is not permitted..." rather than "vegetation's."

The prosecutor's office also recommended that the Deed, Application for the Purchase of Graves/Niches and the Application for the Transfer of Graves/Niches include a statement that the Board of Township Trustees shall have the right of re-entry to the cemetery lot/niche if the notification requirements are not met, as required (in both the terms of sale and in any deeds) by Ohio Revised Code Section 517.07.

The board discussed the sale of niches to non-residents and opening the columbarium up for sale to residents only for the first six months before selling to non-residents. This discussion will be continued at the next regular meeting.

Motion

Mr. Seliga made a motion to sell columbarium niches to non-residents, limited to a maximum of one (1) columbarium niche per family household at the non-resident rate.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Motion

Mr. Arnold made a motion to amend the Restland Cemetery Policy, Rules, Regulations for the Columbarium and Graves based on the recommendation of the Geauga County Prosecutor's Office.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The board made the modifications to the rules and regulations for the columbarium and graves that were recommended by the prosecutor's office and was in agreement to send them back to the prosecutor's office for review before forwarding them to the Board of Trustees.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held January 4, 2012 at 3:30 P.M.

Since there was no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman
Secretary to Cemetery Board