

Minutes of  
Bainbridge Township Cemetery Board  
April 6, 2011

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

Mr. Takacs called the regular meeting to order at 3:45 P.M. at the Town Hall.

MINUTES

The minutes of the March 2, 2011 meeting were approved as written.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy, Rules and Regulations

The board discussed the current policy, rules and regulations for Restland Cemetery. Mr. Marous stated that people are wanting to plant trees, place benches etc. and he would like to have the rules tightened up but would still like the board to review them on a case by case basis based on their merits. Mr. Seliga suggested inviting a representative from one of the funeral homes for a discussion on what families expect with regards to purchasing graves for non-resident family members.

The board members will review the rules and regulations before the next meeting.

Ohio Cemetery Association Dues

Mr. Marous explained that the dues to join the Ohio Cemetery Association are between \$90 - \$100 and two meetings are held each year. The board was in agreement for the township to join the association.

Mr. Seliga made a motion that Bainbridge Township join the Ohio Cemetery Association with the dues not to exceed \$150.00.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

### Olden Request

The board discussed the request by Ms. Maureen Olden to plant a dogwood tree on her parent's graves in Section 12, Lot 19 and reviewed the rules regarding plantings. Mr. Marous supplied a map of Section 12 and explained the location of the graves and said there are no water lines, but they are very close to an existing tree. The board discussed the location of the graves, and was in agreement that it is the only available location at this time for this tree and it would interfere with cars, potentially interfere or encroach upon the neighboring grave and interfere with mowing and maintenance. The board was in agreement to deny the request at this time because of the proposed tree planting program and the tree could potentially be planted in a designated area.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to approve the request of Ms. Olden to plant a dogwood tree on her parent's graves.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Arnold, nay; Mr. Markley, nay; Mr. Marous, nay; Mr. Seliga, nay; Mr. Takacs, nay.

A letter will be sent to Ms. Olden regarding the decision of the cemetery board.

### Geauga Veterans Association Grave Markers and Flags

Mr. Marous reported that the Geauga Veterans Association will supply the township with free brass markers and flags for every veteran in the township cemeteries and they will also donate \$100 to the township to be used for the Memorial Day Service. Mr. Marous suggested that the donation be used to purchase flowers for each side of the vault. Mr. Markley will contact the scout groups and ask them if they would be willing to volunteer to place the flags on the veterans' graves.

The board was in general agreement for Mr. Marous to obtain flags and flag holders for all of the veterans in the Bainbridge Township cemeteries.

### Indigent Burials

The board discussed a letter by Ms. Carri D'Angelo regarding Indigent Burials. The response by Mr. Markley to her was read and discussed. The board reviewed a copy of Auburn Township's Indigent Burial Policy that insures compliance with the Ohio Revised Code. It will be modified for Bainbridge Township to be adopted by the board.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Columbariums

Mr. Seliga reported that the Fiscal Officer is waiting for a response from the Geauga County Prosecutor's Office on the specifications and then they will be sent out for formal bid. Mr. Seliga will follow up with the Fiscal Officer.

### Sturges Request

The board discussed the request by the Sturges family regarding the placement of a bench in a swale. The board was in agreement to deny the request by the Sturges family.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to approve the request by the Sturges family regarding the placement of a bench.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Arnold, nay; Mr. Markley, nay; Mr. Marous, nay; Mr. Seliga, nay; Mr. Takacs, nay.

### Budget

The board discussed the proposed budget. Mr. Markley explained that there is a cost side and a revenue side of it and the landscaping is paid out of the general fund. Mr. Seliga explained the township accounting system and said it was his understanding the road department was reimbursed for the road that was installed into the new section at the cemetery. The board was in agreement to work on the budget at the next meeting.

### Flush Bronze Vases

Mr. Takacs asked about the installation of flush bronze vases for cut flowers and if they should be installed by the township. The board discussed that it is considered a decoration and people put in their own decorations and this is a planting in a designated area.

## OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Marous announced that the electricity was turned back on at the cemetery so the flag is back up. He said he removed all of the Christmas decorations and suggested that the board meet at the cemetery again to determine the placement of the columbarium. Mr. Seliga said he will stay on top of the response from the Prosecutor's Office regarding the columbarium bid specifications.

The board discussed the rules and regulations and feel that some of them go along with the tree planting plan. It was suggested that Davey Tree may be willing to come out and advise the board on the kinds of trees to plant and where to plant them.

Mr. Marous stated he would like to talk about the proposed top soil bin at the next meeting.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held May 4, 2011 at 3:30 P.M.

Since there was no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman  
Secretary to Cemetery Board