

Minutes of
Bainbridge Township Cemetery Board

May 2, 2007

Present: Jeff Markley, Township Trustee, Rob Arnold, Janice Simmons, Bill Takacs, Greg Marous, Road Department, Don Mitchell, Cemetery Sexton, Frank McIntyre, Zoning Inspector and Linda Zimmerman

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 P.M.

Minutes

Mr. Marous stated that there was a correction to the minutes, dated April 11, 2007 under the Restland Cemetery Expansion report. It reads "an orange construction fence and straw logs were installed..." and it should read "will be installed...".

Mr. Marous made a motion to adopt the minutes of the April 11, 2007 meeting as corrected.

Mr. Takacs seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Zoning for Cemeteries

The board met with Mr. Frank McIntyre, Zoning Inspector regarding zoning regulations for cemeteries. Mr. McIntyre explained that townships are exempt from zoning, but cemeteries fall under conditional use zoning requirements so the township should meet or exceed the requirements. He also stated that columbariums are considered structures and would fall into the setback requirement of 100' from the property line. He suggested that a legal opinion should be sought regarding the exemption from zoning. A discussion followed regarding height and size limitations and a site plan of the cemetery was reviewed. Ms. Simmons suggested getting permission from the church and the Cipitis before installing a columbarium closer than 100' to the property line.

Restland Cemetery Expansion

The board discussed with Mr. McIntyre the work being done at the cemetery regarding storm water run-off, silt fences, etc.

Columbariums

The board discussed columbariums and referred to the ones in Mayfield Heights and that they are also used for sound barriers in some cities. The approximate cost for purchasing a niche in a columbarium is between \$1,500 - \$1,700 and that includes one opening and the engraving. Mr. Arnold will obtain rules for columbariums and the board will be making a formal recommendation to the township trustees.

Cemetery Fees

Mr. Arnold reported on fees that other surrounding townships and villages are charging for the opening and closing of grave sites on weekdays and Saturdays.

Mr. Marous and Mr. Mitchell will obtain the real costs for opening and closing grave sites during weekdays and on Saturdays and will report back to the board at the next meeting.

Fowler Cemetery

Mr. Mitchell reported on the progress at Fowler Cemetery regarding the pillars and the fence. He said the stumps are all ground, the wood chips will be removed and the area will be top soiled.

Township Newsletter

Mr. Markley reported that he will be submitting an article for the township newsletter regarding the cemetery board.

Reclamation of Graves

The board discussed the reclamation of graves and the importance of proving the chain of ownership.

Proposed Memorial Fund

Mr. Markley reported that he is checking on a legal opinion regarding the feasibility of establishing a memorial fund that would raise financial support for a specific purpose for the cemetery.

Easement with Bainbridge Community United Church of Christ

The board discussed the easement the township holds with the church for the access to Restland Cemetery.

Topics for Next Meeting

Mr. Mitchell will report on the process for selling graves, deeds, records, burials, etc. with the board.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held June 6, 2007 at 3:30 P.M.

P.M. Since there was no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman