

MINUTES  
PROVINCETOWN CEMETERY COMMISSION  
APRIL 6, 2017

Present: Richard Olson (Chairman) Jack Kiefer, Mike Harpie and Susan Avellar.

Absent: Kurt Reynolds and Ruth Anne Cowing.

Also Present: DPW Deputy Director Eric Larsen.

The Meeting convened at 3:05pm

1. Minutes: The minutes for the March 2, 2017 meeting were approved.
2. Cemetery Plot Sales: There were none to be approved.
3. Winthrop Street Restoration Project: Eric Larsen joined us for an extended discussion of the landscaping project we have entrusted to RDLA, Landscaping Architects and the D'Ambrosio firm, low bidders to carry out the project. Mike Harpie made a presentation of the issues we have as the project is about to resume in the spring weather. A principal concern is the apparent re-routing of the main (ADA compliant) walkway to the opposite side of the Smallpox Memorial from the previously existing, which means the plaque will now be viewed upside-down. Apparently, then, the Memorial will need to be turned about (at what risk and at whose expense?)

The re-routing apparently has to do with the walkway grades involved, but we were never involved in any decision on the matter. Nor are we happy with the Smallpox Memorial having been practically left in a hole over the winter with piles of dirt around and a cumbersome looking front-end loader marring the scene. We are also concerned to see two broken stone markers (newly ?) appeared on footpaths in the vicinity, and also some further damage to the newly repaired granite and iron railing fences around the cemetery, apparently from winter snow-plowing.

Work should resume in the next week or two, and Rich Waldo will meet with Mike Harpie and the contractors to get the project off on the right foot. Mike Harpie will also touch base with Doug Johnstone and Michelle Jarusiewicz about the walkway memorial reversal, or perhaps moving the memorial to the other side of the re-located walkways.

4. Gifford and Hamilton Cemeteries: The Chairman delightedly reported that our Grant Administrator is working to put this conservation project out to bid.
5. Alden Street, Old Section: The \$40,000 CPC grant for Priorities 1 and 2 of the MCC needs assessment should also go out to bid soon, perhaps combined with the \$51,000 CPC grant, just approved at the April Town Meeting to finance half of the cost of Priorities 3 and 4.
6. Alden Street, New Sections: No current issues.
7. Cemetery Finances: The latest monthly statement was circulated.
8. Brochure: The finished product was circulated, with great pride, and the Commission voted to appropriate \$6,600 from the Cemetery Gift Fund in partial payment to Sunderland Printing. That leaves us with \$1,650 to be raised (\$300 so far from the C of C and \$150 from PM &PM).
9. Funeral Home Requests: Deferred.
10. VFW Request re flagpoles: Mike Harpie reported that he is drafting a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting transfer of two flagpoles from the VFW property to the Cemetery Commission. One would be installed at the Browne Street entrance to the Winthrop Street Cemetery in conjunction with a granite mounted plaque honoring Provincetown soldiers in the American Revolution and the Civil War, as requested by the DAR and VFW, the other to replace an existing flagpole at the Alden Street Cemetery. We will ask the Tree Warden to remove a dead Birch.

11.Other Business: The Chairman suggested we might consider election of new officers at our next meeting.

12.Next Meeting: Set for Thursday May 4, 2017, at 3:00pm.

The Meeting Adjourned at 4:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Olson. Chairman.