Meeting Minutes Princeton Cemetery Commission Meeting – Monday August 14, 2023 Town Hall Annex – Small Meeting Room and GoToMeeting

Present: Lynne Grettum, Greg Miranda, Paul Constantino, Bruce Rollins **Absent:** None

The meeting was called to order by Chair Grettum at 7:02 P.M.

Review of Meeting Minutes from July 17, 2023

The meeting minutes from July 17, 2023 were reviewed by the members and approved as written by unanimous vote, 3-0.

Superintendent Report (see attached report for details)

- One cremation burial and 5 lots sold Fiscal FY24 to date.
- Oppressive heat coupled with vacation of the designated Highway Department assistant, limited the amount of project work that could be accomplished.
- The locations of several monuments were marked, and foot stone installed for Durwood Cole monument in Parker II Cemetery.

Update on Superintendent Backup Position

Superintendent Rollins would like to have a trained backup person who can handle funeral arrangements in case of his absence. Hiring someone as a town employee would be difficult; it was suggested that we consider using the Princeton tax work-off program. The program does not have an income limit, only a minimum age requirement of 55 and older.

A motion was made by Chair Grettum that the Cemetery Commission proceed in searching for a backup assistant to the Superintendent utilizing the town tax work-off program for funding. The motion was seconded by G. Miranda, and approved by unanimous vote of 3-0.

Project Review

The project list prepared by Chair Grettum for the July 17 meeting was reviewed. Items in the various cemeteries were prioritized for attention either during 2023 or next year.

Woodlawn Cemetery

Priority:

- Complete the open lot inventory and lot corner markings.
- Obtain estimate to fill in soil and create 8 new lots along back wall of 1986 section.
- Obtain estimate for paving/improving the driveway entrance; coordinate with painting of entrance gate.
- Finish cleanup of area in front of stone wall, in front of 1986 section.

Future:

• Repair ceiling of storage vault.

North Cemetery

Priority:

- Re-map cremation sections 49, 51 and 61.
- Remove large tree trunk on top of stone wall at upper end of cemetery.

Future:

• Look for solution to terrace eroding at edge, fourth level, right side.

West Cemetery

Priority:

- Trim shrubs around oak tree, between Wilson and Lamb lots.
- Remove broken tree limb and smaller branches intruding along stone wall on left side.

Parker II Cemetery

Priority:

• Review cemetery with Tree Warden to evaluate current status and tree-work

recommendations, including large dead limb on oak tree near center of grounds.

Future:

• Investigate solutions to erosion problem in back right corner of grounds.

Lot Purchase Requirements

The current Princeton Cemetery Rules and Regulations state that "the purchase of cemetery lots is limited to persons whose principal residence is in the Town of Princeton". Questions have arisen around purchase requests by former residents and relatives of current residents, for example. The Superintendent has asked for clarification regarding possible exceptions.

Members agreed with re-evaluating the purchase requirements. Changes to the Rules and Regulations must be approved by the SelectBoard. Members decided to consider the issue along with some other Rules changes considered in the past but never implemented, to avoid piecemeal revisions.

Items not anticipated by the Chair 48 hours before meeting

Chair Grettum to meet with Town Administrator and others, as required, to discuss status of Highway Department assistance.

Topics for Next Meeting

Cemetery database proposals.

Schedule Meetings September - December

Chair Grettum scheduled the meetings for the next several months, all on Mondays, to be held at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Annex – Small Meeting Room and remotely by GoToMeeting.

The upcoming dates are: September 11, 2023 October 16, 2023 November 13, 2023 December 11, 2023

A motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

Submitted by Greg Miranda, Clerk PCCminutes 9.9.2023