



TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES

MASSACHUSETTS

City of Malden

150 FOREST STREET MALDEN, MA 02148
781-322-2360

James Tuxbury, Chairman
Sheila Fermano, Secretary
Joseph Barriss, Trustee
Vincent Miraglia, Trustee
William Settemio, Trustee

January 19, 2023

MEETING MINUTES OF: January 18, 2023

A meeting of the Cemetery Board of Trustees was held at the Forest Dale Cemetery, 150 Forest Street, Malden on the above date, in accordance with the Notice of Meeting, as provided in G.L. c.30A, §§ 18-25. Notice was filed with the City Clerk's Office, City of Malden.

Chairman James Tuxbury called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Members present were Vincent Miraglia, James Tuxbury, Joseph Barriss and Sheila Fermano. (William Settemio was absent.) Superintendent Christopher Rosa also attended the meeting.

The minutes of the December 28, 2022 meeting were read and upon the motion of Vincent Miraglia and seconded by Joseph Barriss, the Board voted to accept the minutes as read; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

TRUST REPORT: The Trust/Treasurer Report was read by Superintendent Chris Rosa. The Cemetery Trust received income for the month of December in the amount of \$24,373.64 for Perpetual Care and \$10.75 for Specific Perpetual Care for a total of \$24,384.39. This money was turned over to the Treasurer's office to be added to the Cemetery Trust accounts. Upon the motion of Sheila Fermano and seconded by Joseph Barriss, the Board voted to accept the Trust Report as read; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: The Superintendent's report was received by the Trustees and was read by Superintendent Rosa. Burials for the month of December were as follows: three (3) cremains, five (5) existing full lot burials, two (2) Lottery burials, one (1) new double-deep and two (2) new two-grave lots for a total of thirteen (13) burials.

- Superintendent Rosa said coyotes have been more frequent and signs have been placed at entrances and exits apprising visitors to the cemetery. He also said there was a going to be a meeting sponsored by the city on the issue and will be held on January 26, 2023 at the Forestdale School on how to live with coyotes.
- Cemetery sander has been repaired, inspected and is operational again.
- New decorating plan is being prepared which will include the December holidays, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving and Memorial Day. The Superintendent added that if there were families wishing to acknowledge any non-Christian holidays it would not be a problem.
- Flowers are being ordered for spring.
- New memorials are being planned and he is working on quotes for the Forest Dale (in the Veteran section), Bell Rock Cemetery (Black Revolutionary Soldiers) and a dedication of the gazebo in honor of Ann Madigan.

DISCUSSION ON MASTER PLAN FOR BURIAL PLOTS: Regarding the Master Plan for new burial lots, Superintendent Rosa said it is an ongoing process. However, he indicated in Sections 1A2 and 1D there were four (4) eight-grave lots not being used. He said he would like to convert them into four (4) two-grave lots or double deeps. He said once the area was excavated, the cemetery crew could install double-deep

boxes costing round \$400-500 upfront, but once opened for a burial the cemetery could sell them for at least \$800.

Motion was made by Vincent Miraglia and seconded by Joseph Barris to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to convert four (4) eight-grave lots into double-deep gravesites; all were in favor.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON RFP FOR CEMETERY INVESTMENTS: President Tuxbury told the Board he did not hear back from the Legal Department (as of this meeting) regarding the oversight/responsibility the Trustees held regarding the hiring of an investment firm, however, it had been published prior to our approval. President Tuxbury said he was informed there were only two (2) applicants and one (the Cemetery's current firm) had not met the criteria for the application process, which left only one, Rockland Trust IMG, who met all the qualifications required. When he spoke with the Treasurer and Nick Pernice, Assistant Controller, he was asked if he wanted to be part of the vetting process and President Tuxbury said he and the Board had full confidence in the finance team for the city. President Tuxbury reiterated to the finance team we are all on the same page. Mr. Barriss asked if this was a one-year contract or for a specific period of time. After speaking with the Treasurer, President Tuxbury said it would be "at will" and if city not happy with the chosen firm, another RFP would be published. Motion was made by Joseph Barriss and seconded by Sheila Fermano that the Cemetery Board of Trustees accept the recommendation of the city's financial team to hire Rockland investment as the investment firm for the Cemetery financial assets and securities. **Motion passed 3Y1N (Mr. Miraglia was against.)**

Superintendent Rosa asked Mr. Miraglia if only one firm responded, why would he not vote for that firm. Mr. Miraglia said applicants should have met with the Trustees in order to ask specific questions and we should be the ones to approve who manages our investing. He said it was the Board's responsibility to oversee the investments.

GENERAL CEMETERY BUSINESS: Mr. Miraglia told the Superintendent the O'Brien issue had been addressed and the family was very appreciative. Superintendent Rosa said it was all set a month ago and now in the hands of the City Clerk's office.

President Tuxbury said questions about a Lottery for the niche wall had been raised and he was informed by Ms. Fermano the Trustees approved the request from the former superintendent in the June 22, 2022 meeting to move forward with advertising a Lottery for twenty-five (25) niches. This was never done. President Tuxbury asked Ms. Fermano to contact the Mayor's office to move forward on this endeavor.

Next meeting of the Board of Trustees: The next meeting of the Cemetery Board of Trustees will be held on February 27, 2023, at 5:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT: All business before the Board of Trustees having been completed and upon motion of Vincent Miraglia and seconded by Joseph Barriss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Sheila Fermano, Secretary