



# 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

March 16, 2023

### MEETING MINUTES OF: March 15, 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, William Settemio and Sheila Fermano. Superintendent Christopher Rosa was also present, as well as Laurie Mead and resident Georgette Petraglia.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Superintendent Rosa informed the Trustees a resident - Georgette Petraglia, 32 Willard Street – had contacted him (as instructed by Mr. Miraglia) regarding her concerns with dogs in the Cemetery and wanted to address the Trustees.

Motion to suspend rules to allow Mrs. Petraglia to present her concerns to the Trustees was made by Vincent Miraglia and seconded by William Settemio; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

Mrs. Petraglia said one issue she wanted to bring up was the new sign regarding coyotes in the Cemetery. She said it covered the original signage which stated, "No Dogs Allowed" and she felt that because it was covered, it now allowed dogs in the cemetery. Mrs. Petraglia said she worried about the dogs aggravating the coyotes and the feces that accompanied unleashed dogs. She said it was not a dog park and dogs should not be allowed in the cemetery.

President Tuxbury said a lot of people now have companion dogs and this would have to be considered but his intention would be to consider a temporary solution. He said there had been no complaints from the crew regarding feces or loose dogs running around.

Superintendent Rosa told Mrs. Petraglia he understood how she felt but in no way was the original sign covered with the new coyote one; he said the original sign was vandalized in November covering up the word "No" and was taken down. He said coyote signage did not allow for dogs; however, it was impossible to police. He wants all dogs leashed and only on the pavement.

Mr. Barriss said he is a frequent visitor to the cemetery and has never seen any dogs unleashed. He, too, added there was not much that could be done about it. President Tuxbury informed Mrs. Petraglia that if a dog was unleashed, the owner would be trespassed and would be fined for an unleashed dog. (It was agreed to continue discussion on this matter when examining the Cemetery Rules. President Tuxbury thanked Mrs. Petraglia for her time.)

The minutes of the February 27, 2023 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 January in the amount of \$7,115.38 for Perpetual Care and \$39.39 for Specific Perpetual Care for a total of \$7,154.77. This money was turned over to the Treasurer's office to be added to the Cemetery Trust accounts.

Upon the motion of William Settemio and seconded by Vincent Miraglia, 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 February were as follows: one (1) existing cremains, one (1) existing full lot burial and one (1) full Lottery burial for a total of three (3) burials.

- Superintendent Rosa said the new grave decorating plan is almost complete and he will consolidate research on this subject with Trustee Fermano.
- He said the pond has continuing water issues and he has been working on a drainage system with the Water Department.
- Regarding the new memorials that are being planned 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, all are in progress and all landscape bids have come in and will be awarded soon.
- The Master Plan for new burial lots is an ongoing process.
- The Superintendent said dead/dangerous trees continue to be removed, as well.

Motion was made by Vincent Miraglia and seconded by William Settemio to accept the Superintendent's Report; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION ON CEMETERY RULES:** Superintendent Rosa continued discussing signage (regarding certain rules) he would like to see at the three main gates (Main Street, Sylvan Street and Forest Street) to enable him and the staff/crew to enforce said rules. (He was not aware there was already a speed limit in the Cemetery, so he dismissed that amendment.) He told the Trustees he would like to put the rules on one sign so not to litter the cemetery with signage. The signage would state the following:

- Licensed Drivers Only
- Leashed Dogs on Pavement Only
- Hours of Operation 8:00 A.M. to Sunset
- Respect Wildlife - No Feeding (or Do Not Make Contact)

Motion was made by Sheila Fermano to amend Cemetery Rules as indicated and presented by Superintendent, seconded by Al Barriss; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION ON NICHE LOTTERY:** Ms. Fermano gave the following update:

- The advertisement for the upcoming lottery has been posted on the City's website, Facebook page, and other social media outlets.
- The ad had been published in the Advocate this past week and will continue to be published weekly until the deadline.
- She contacted three (3) of the city's financial institutions regarding available short-term, low-interest loans that may be available for entrants, if needed

- Ms. Fermano was waiting for information from both Eastern Bank and Metro Credit Union; Citizens Bank did not have any personal loans to offer.

There was brief discussion on how the Lottery would be conducted and various other details. Ms. Fermano will continue to update the Trustees and Superintendent as more information becomes available.

**GENERAL CEMETERY BUSINESS:** (All current matters had been addressed.)

**Next meeting of the Board of Trustees:** The next meeting of the Cemetery Board of Trustees will be held on April 19, 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 6:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila L. Fermano".

Sheila Fermano, Secretary