



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

April 19, 2023

MEETING MINUTES OF: April 19, 2023

A meeting of the Cemetery Board of Trustees was held 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 was also present.

The minutes of the March 15, 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**

CORRESPONDENCE: President Tuxbury informed the Trustees he had contacted the Solicitor's Office for a legal opinion regarding the legality for Trustees to apply for the Lottery. Assistant City Solicitor Alicia McNeil provided a legal opinion as requested and advised against the practice as stated in MGL.C 268 23(b)(3). Since the Trustees have voted on and are administering the actual lottery, none of the Trustees, nor their immediate family, should be allowed to participate in the lottery.

TRUST REPORT: The Trust/Treasurer Report was read by Superintendent Chris Rosa. The Cemetery Trust received income for the month of March in the amount of \$31,229.51 for Perpetual Care. This money was turned over to the Treasurer's office to be added to the Cemetery Trust accounts. Mr. Miraglia also told the Board he had met with the Treasurer, Dan Grover, and discussed the possibility of inviting the new investment firm to the September meeting. Upon the motion of Vincent Miraglia and seconded by Sheila Fermano, 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 March were as follows: four (4) existing full lot burials for a total of four (4) burials.

- Superintendent Rosa said the pond has been pumped to an appropriate level and has been treated; in addition, the fountain has been installed.
- He said the Master Plan for new burial lots is an ongoing process but there were two areas on each side of Section H that could potentially provide additional graves – 106 double-deep on one side and 78 double-deep on the other. He said no decisions were being made on this as he was gathering bids to see if viable.
- Several stumps (15) had been removed and winter graves have been loamed and seeded.
- A new camera has been installed in the dumpster area due to illegal dumping by residents.
- The new signage was ready to be installed at the main entrance, the Sylvan Street entrances and the two entrances at Pine Banks. The signs would now indicate the opening/closing hours for the Cemetery, which were 7:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.

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

ARBORETUM PLAN UPDATE: Superintendent Rosa said the arboretum application is pending approval as a Level 1 Arboretum. He said it was a great "kudos" to be listed as an arboretum and the application process involved many aspects – twenty-five (25) different species of trees were needed (we currently have fifty-four (54) and more coming); a governing body was needed, therefore the Trustees were listed as such; someone needed to be in charge, thus the Superintendent was listed; and a certain number of employees were necessary. Superintendent Rosa said the highest level dedicated as an arboretum is a Level 4 so this Level 1 designation brings great status for the Cemetery.

Superintendent Rosa also told the Trustees an Arbor Day event was being held in the Cemetery on Saturday, April 29, 2023 from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. (rain date was scheduled for Sunday, April 30, 2023 same time). He said he received sixteen (16) trees from National Grid, which would be planted prior to the event, and Councillor Murphy was also involved in the planning of the festivities.

GENERAL CEMETERY BUSINESS: Mr. Miraglia discussed the Community Preservation Program and asked if the Trustees could be involved in the application process for the refurbishment of the pond, which would qualify for the program. Superintendent Rosa said a resident was submitting an application/request as the Trustees were not allowed to, but if approved, the Trustees can then be involved.

Discussion on National Grid and past destruction of numerous trees due to placement of their equipment on Cemetery trees. Superintendent Rosa assured the Trustees he had the issue under control. As the Tree Warden, he deals quite a lot with National Grid and National Grid Electric has to submit a Vegetation Management Plan to the Superintendent if, in fact, they need use of Cemetery property.

On another issue, Superintendent Rosa showed the Trustees before and after pictures of the boulders, rock and debris located at the Pine Banks entrances. Both were completely rid of dangerous rocks, boulders and the like and both were impassable to vehicles but safe for pedestrians. One entrance was now gated, locked and all waste and litter at both locations had been removed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Motion was made by Vincent Miraglia to nominate James Tuxbury as President; seconded by Sheila Fermano; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

Mr. Tuxbury accepted the nomination.

Motion was made by Joseph Barriss to nominate Sheila Fermano as Secretary; Vincent Miraglia seconded; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

Ms. Fermano accepted the nomination.

Next meeting of the Board of Trustees: The next meeting of the Cemetery Board of Trustees will be held on May 17, 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,



Sheila Fermano, Secretary