

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
CEMETERY COMMISSION

Proposed meeting minutes

The Town of Plainfield Cemetery Commission met on Wednesday Aug 16, 2017 at 5:30pm at the Plainfield Fire Station. The meeting began at 5:50

Commissioners Present: Paula Ackel, Greg Light, David Spence, and Ed Hutchinson.
Also present was Joseph Mangan

The Minutes of the May 31 meeting were accepted as proposed, and the summary of the July 5 work session would be accepted as minutes for that meeting as published.

A lot owner has asked the commission to buy back because she will not need it. We discussed the issue and we agreed that we can not afford to open the door of buyback of unused lots. The policy regarding changing ownership of a lot are quite clear in the "Regulations" manual, and we believe we can not make an exception. As described in the Regulations, we would generally authorize an owner to sell their lot to a third party, and will charge a "small" fee (which is not specified) for changing of the maps and our records. The deeds and recording of them is the responsibility of the former and new owners. I will convey that decision to the owner.

An evening of voluntary work at the Bartlett cemetery was discussed and we decided to have the next session at the Plain-Mont cemetery on Aug 30 at 5:00 pm. The work plan will be to do a major cut back of the large hedge and remove the debris. Work still needs to be done at the Bartlett cemetery and we will plan another event later at the Center.

There have been several complaints about the condition of the large hedge and we hope that will be solved by an evening of cutting.

There are two severely broken stones at the Center (Bartlett) cemetery.
There is a large tipping monument at the Bisson Cemetery that needs to be righted.
These two items were considered and Joseph said he could right the monument for about \$250, and could repair the two broken stones for about \$220. We authorized not more than \$500 for those repairs. Greg said he would be interested to learn how to make those repairs and Joseph said he would show Greg how it is done. If we are planning to do volunteer repairs in the future Joseph recommended that we have certain tools.

There have been continuing complaints about the condition of grass mowing. They include large clumps of grass left rotting on the surface, grass plastered on monuments, and evidence of mower impacts on stones. We are considering what options we have to have the mowing contractor be more considerate of the grave sites. It is not clear if we actually have a contract with Lamson Property Management. They proposed a five year contract April 2015. At the time we awarded a contract to a low bid contractor. That contractor resigned from his contract in mid summer and Lamson agreed to resume mowing at the rate they had proposed. The proposed contract would have included two annual hedge trimmings and "blowing" of the cut grass from monuments. But that contract may not actually be enforceable.

There has been a complaint the debris from weeding and trimming flowers and some plastic materials being thrown over the fence at the Bartlett cemetery. We need to encourage visitors to be respectful of our neighbors. Paula will design for several small signs we can attach to the fence to encourage visitors to carry out their refuse. We authorized up to \$75 to have signs made.

With no additional business the meeting adjourned at 6:25