

**HOPE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012**

Meeting began: 4:06PM

Meeting ended 6:25PM

Attendance:

William Wallace: Chairman
William Bombard: Co-Chairman
Richard Perry: Commission member
Nicole Apostola: Commission Member
Robert C. Antonrlli Jr.: Assistant Commissioner
Stephanie Choquette: Principal Clerk

Motion to accept minutes from last meeting:

William Bombard approve
Nicole Apostola approve
Richard Perry approve

Mr. Antonelli motion to take new items out of order

William Bombard approve
Richard Perry approve
Nicole Apostola approve

New Business:

1. Mr. William Gibbons asking for a waiver for a flat marker to be placed on a 2GR lot which does not meet existing size requirements restrictions. The size requirements are 3" – 0' X 1' – 0' X 0' – 4". The flat marker wanting to be placed is 3' – 8" X 1' – 1" X 0" – 1". Mr. Gibbons would like the Board members to waiver the size restriction for the marker to be placed for it was originally in Paxton Worcester county memorial park. Members of the board reviewed location of lot on the section map of 108A, and where actually the marker would be

placed. Questions; would it interfere with future burials or abutting lots; Mr. Bombard makes motion to waive the request for it was a pre-existing marker.

Motion to accept: Richard Perry approve

Nicole Apostola approve

William Wallace approve

Mr. Gibbons will drop off the flat marker at the office and when fall foundations are poured it will be placed on lot.

2. Elaine Mustis: not in attendance, has directed a written request for a waiver for a monument or flat marker to be placed next to the pre-existing monument at gravesite. The regulations state that only one monument may be placed on a lot and markers are placed at the foot of the graves. The lot was reviewed by members of the Board and has concluded that a flat marker could be placed to the side of monument size 2' - 0" X 1' - 0" X 0' - 4". Mr. Wallace did explain to the Board that not all lots are able to adapt to more memorials because of tight rows for accessibility.

Mr. Wallace motion to accept for a flat marker only to be allowed and placed next to monument...

William Bombard: approve

Nicole Apostola: approve

Richard Perry : approve

3. Mr. Wallace greets Mr. Duhani to speak in regards to his request of a waiver for change in size restrictions for a monument to be placed in section 99 lot 26. Mr. Duhani begins by stating that upon purchasing the lot, he was not informed of the size restrictions for the monuments in section 99, or that rule and regulations were not explained clearly enough by the staff. Mr. Duhani was not present during the lot purchase. He states when his wife was brought over to the location the information was too vague. Mr. Duhani is proposing a size difference of width, thickness, and height including base. He stated he went to Empire Granite Company and chose his monument and design he preferred. The monument company informed him of the size restrictions in section 99 and that it would not get approved. Mr. Duhani stated he told the monument company to send the foundation order form for he wanted the office to not approve the order. Mr. Duhani states he was not happy with the monument request being denied by the cemetery office. He called Mr. Antonelli to discuss the variations in dimensions on the monuments in section 99. Mr. Antonelli explains to Mr. Duhani that past allowances do not make it correct for what the present size restrictions are required to be followed consistently, and that was the goal of section 99. It was to give an opportunity for individuals to have monuments but in a restricted size, location, and done in a uniformed manner. Mr. Duhani feels there should be flexibility in size restrictions. Then states he received his deed incorrectly from the cemetery office. Ms. Choquette addressed this matter immediately from the cemetery office and it was determined that the treasurer's Office had made the mistake on the deed and they would re-issue Mr. Duhani another one. Mr. Wallace asks "Why can't the monument not be conformed to the correct size?" Mr. Duhani states that the design can not be altered to fit that size monument. Mr. Bombard states that he would like to know why or did the monument company state the design could not be rescaled to the size of the monument. Mr. Wallace asks Mr.

Duhani to return to Empire Granite monument Company and to actually implement a rescaled design for the monument in the correct size, and ask accompany representative to attend the next meeting and explain for any reason why the design can not be altered? The hope cemetery Commission Board would like Empire to create a dramatic respectful design that is to conform to the Hope cemetery monument size regulations for section 99. Mr. Duhani is requesting public records of minutes of when this section was approved as well as the size requirements for the monuments.

Motion to continue this discussion at next meeting; ask Mr. Duhani if he would be available on Monday October 22, 2012 he responded yes. To be continued for next meeting William Bombard – to continue

Richard Perry – to continue

Nicole Apostola – to continue

Mr. Wallace would like to conduct a field search addressing this issue for a long term. The Board thanked Mr. Duhani for attending the meeting and will see him next month.

4. Mr. Haddad would like to donate some trees and a bench in the future near his family lot. Motion to approve: William Bombard - approved

Nicole Apostola - approved

Richard Perry - approved

Ms. Choquette will contact Mr. Haddad for this will be a Spring project with tree selections as well as approval of the bench, if this is something Mr. Haddad would like to pursue.

5. Glen Perry asking permission to take pictures in Hope Cemetery. What would be allowed, alteration of pictures, designs, the ultimate product. Mr. Wallace in regards to authorization- is it a violation of the primary lot owner, or is it considered public property. the legalities for production purposes (policy for commercial use, historical preservation) Refer questions to David Moore to be further discussed
6. Ms. Dowd Section 92 Rose bushes will be grandfathered in due to the fact they have been there so long and the location does not interfere with the maintenance of the cemetery. But Ms. Dowd needs to maintain it properly and that no future rose bushes will be allowed to be planted.

Old Business Items

1. Compost site: grading
2. Council of Eastern Orthodox: accepted second choice for possible development Mr. Walter Haddad will attend the December 11th meeting accompanied with some member sto discuss expansion: Retainer Fund – Improvement Fund?
3. Perpetual Care: Marianne hair to attend
4. Friends of Hope Cemetery, newly planted trees are being damaged by maintenance crew with mowers and weed whackers breaking the stem and bark of tree, mulch has been set to somewhat protect.
5. Friends of Hope Cemetery Michael Moscos questioning (old fence deteriorated) located near old maintenance building on Webster Street. WPA Gate. Main entrance can it be taken down or repaired? Mr. Antonelli stated this is still being discussed fact being the gate is actually attached within the stone column itself

6. Friend of Hope Cemetery making the board aware that the sign located on Curtis Ave (at the triangle island) was damaged seems as if a vehicle has hit the sign. Possibility was cause by people having driving lessons.
7. No dogs allowed / still an issue
8. Nancy Gaudette: service went very , many were in attendance and had wonderful memories of her. The Service was held in the chapel, considering to investigate in having some type of sound system

Motion to Adjourn: William Bombard approved
Richard Perry approved
Nicole Apostola approved

Time: 6:25PM

Next Meeting: October 22, 2012 at 4:00PM