# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD Jonathan Mitchell, Mayor

## Department of Public Infrastructure

Jamie Ponte Commissioner

Water
Wastewater
Highways
Engineering
Cemeteries
Park Maintenance
Forestry
Energy

# **Cemetery Board Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, May 29, 2019

### 1. Call to order

Carol Grimes called to order the regular meeting of the Cemetery Board at 6:08 PM on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at the Department of Public Infrastructure Conference Room.

### 2. Roll call

Rebecca Gomes conducted a roll call the following board members were present Carol Grimes, Steven Caton, and Barbara McDonald. Egidio Melo arrived a few minutes late. Jill Ussach was absent.

Others present were Jamie Ponte, Molly Gilfeather, Rebecca Gomes, Erica Trahan, Ping Fun Choi of the DPI and Eric Jaikes of the Solicitors office.

### 3. Open Session for the Public to Speak

The three members of the public were present to who wished to speak to the board.

On a motion by Steven Caton and seconded by Egidio Melo, it was unanimously voted to table the review of the Cemetery Board Rules and Regulation for the next board meeting.

- 4. On a motion by Steven Caton and seconded by Barbara McDonald, the acceptance of the minutes from March 20, 2018 were unanimously approved and accepted.
- 5. On a motion by Barbara McDonald and seconded by Egidio Melo the certificates for January 2018 through April 2019 were unanimously approved and accepted.

### 6. Reports

a. On a motion by Steven Caton and seconded by Barbara McDonald, the Commissioners Report was unanimously voted to approve and accept.

- b. On a motion by Steven Caton and seconded by Barbara McDonald, the Financial Report was unanimously voted to approve and accept.
- c. On a motion by Steven Caton and seconded by Barbara McDonald, the Clerks Report was unanimously voted to approve and accept.

### 7. Old Business

a. On a motion by Steven Caton and seconded by Barbara McDonald, it was unanimously voted to remove the funding for the database program from tabled business.

On a motion by Egidio Melo and seconded by Steven Caton it was unanimously voted to approve and accept the permission to allocate 100k towards securing a database and proceed with an RFP.

b. Flower Perpetual Care 25-year cap retroactively.

Mr. Jaikes advised the board that they cannot retroactively cap at the additional perpetual care at 25 years. We must continue the perpetual care for those who have purchased before March 20, 2018's ruling.

### c. St Theresa's Land

Mr. Jaikes advised the board that they can keep rectory, demo the rectory or, sell the rectory off.

### d. Pine Grove Columbariums

On a motion by Steven Caton and seconded Barbara McDonald it was unanimously voted to table item d. regarding columbarium research for the next board meeting.

### 8. New Business

- a. A motion was made by Steven Caton and seconded by Barbara McDonald, it was unanimously voted to approve and accept the donation of benches for Pine Grove Cemetery.
- b. A motion was made by Barbara McDonald and seconded by Egidio Melo, it was unanimously voted to approve and accept the permission to apply for MPPF and CPA grants to help fund the restoration of the Oak Grove public tomb.
- c. A motion was made by Egidio Melo and seconded by Steven Caton, it was unanimously voted to approve and accept the \$10,250.75 out of perpetual care for the purchase of section signs throughout the cemeteries.

- d. A motion was made by and seconded by Steven Caton and seconded by Barbara McDonald, it was unanimously voted to approve and accept \$10,700 out of perpetual care for the connection of water service and installation of water faucets nearby to section 210 at Rural cemetery.
- e. A motion was made by Egidio Melo and seconded by Steven Caton, it was unanimously voted to approve and accept the prices of \$725 for an extralarge grave box and \$290 for a child's grave box to be added to the pricelist.
- f. A motion was made by Barbara McDonald and seconded by Egidio Melo, it was unanimously voted to approve and accept the \$70,000 out of perpetual care for seasonal help effective immediately.
- g. A motion was made by Egidio Melo and seconded by Steven Caton it was unanimously voted to approve and accept the \$7,000 out of perpetual care for an office intern.
- h. A motion was made by Steven Caton and seconded by Barbara McDonald, it was unanimously voted to approve and accept the next sections for Rural Cemetery. Veterans sections 211 and 212, singles section 213 and 214, and doubles and more section 215 and 216.
- i. A motion was made by Steven Caton and seconded by Barbara McDonald, it unanimously voted to approve and accept quarterly meetings going forward.
- 9. Communications- None
- 10. Tabled Business- None
- 11. Executive Session- None
- 12. Adjournment

Carol Grimes adjourned the meeting at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Rebecca Gomes

Administrative Coordinator

Rebecca Jomes

Reviewed by,

Jamie Ponte Commissioner