

LCC minutes February 12, 2019

The Lincoln Cemetery Commission held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 in the conference room at Town Offices. Present were: Manley Boyce, Susan Harding, Rob Todd, chair, and Valerie Fox, Agent. Guests were Steve McDonald, DPW foreman, and GH, supervisor of cemeteries for the Town of Stow.

1. The minutes for December were approved as amended.
2. Four deeds were signed: Elisa Sartori; George and Susan Seeley; James and Katherine Nicholson; and, Marilyn Levis.
3. Rob Todd reported that he had submitted the cemetery report for the Annual Town Report for 2018 with the help of Valerie and Jack McLean.
4. GH noted that he had worked for the Town of Stow for 21 years and as head of the cemeteries for 18. His philosophy is to try to do whatever the family wants, and he is getting questions about green burials. As a result he has talked to the other towns in MA that permit them as well as private cemeteries such as Mt. Auburn and Whitehaven in Rochester, NY. He has called together the funeral directors in Stow as well as a vault maker. He mentioned that Southborough, MA has a nicely done stone wall with niches for burying ashes. He gave us a copy of the guidelines he is considering; it is still a work in progress. He considers issues of liability and safety for workers the primary concerns. When plots are 12' x 5' rather than 10' x 4', there is less likelihood of disturbing bones from one grave when digging another beside it. He promised to keep us updated as he formulates his guidelines.
5. The Commission approved the layout for Fern Way as proposed by Hayner/Swanson, Inc. These lots will be 12 feet long to accommodate upright monuments and still leave room for equipment to move among them. The numbering systems will be rows A,B,C etc. starting next to the stone wall and moving closer to the road parallel to the stone wall; the numbers will go 1,2,3, etc, and be identified as FfA1 for Fern Way full burial (c for cremations and half-sized lot) and the letter and number marking the location.
6. The Commission approved the request of Tracey and Jeff Harris Bennett to split lot#949 into 2 lots. The Commission approved the request of Debby French to buy 2 more lots in Juniper Way next to her current ones. Her request to plant a dogwood tree for her lots was put on hold until the Commission can walk over the area to find the best placement.
7. The Commission approved the wording of the appropriation at the Annual Town Meeting to withdraw \$5000.00 from sale of lots for "improvements," which can included tree work and other things that might be needed.
8. The Commission approved hiring Joey Cotoni to do clean up work in the cemetery and to put on the Dallin statue's winter cover. Sticks littering the ground are making the cemetery look unkempt.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Harding, commissioner