

City of Barre
Public Body Meeting Minutes

Draft

Committee: Cemetery and Parks

Date of meeting: August 15, 2022

Location of Meeting: Alumni Hall, 2nd Floor

Committee Members in attendance: Chair Guiliano Cecchinelli, Director Bergeron, Assistant Director Stephanie Quaranta, Ilene Gillander, Starr LeCompte, Mark Gherardi, Renie Zanleoni, Helen Long

Committee Members absent: Heather Ritchie

Others in attendance: none

Meeting Called to Order: 11:00 am.

Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the minutes submitted of the last meeting.

Director's Report to Committee:

Director reports that summer staff hours are winding down as school begins.

Old Business:

Councilman Boutin has requested that a statement be prepared by the Committee for submittal to the City Council. This statement will clarify the Committee opinion on the rules and regulations pertaining to pets in the Barre City cemeteries. This will allow Councilman Boutin to bring a revision of the present ordinance before the Council that was discussed in the June meeting.

A motion was made directing the Secretary to prepare a draft for committee review. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Secretary will prepare and circulate to Committee members.

The Chair revisited the discussion of the columbarium design. A lengthy and lively discussion followed leaving the Committee with more unanswered questions and plenty of food for thought.

The Director reported that letters were sent to the five worst offenders of the “Cemetery Rules and Regulations” on approved decorations for gravesites. He has heard nothing from any of the lot owners. Conditions have not improved. The Director is going to send out a second letter by certified mail this week. The Committee will make a decision on its next action at the September 19th meeting.

New Business

FY 22 ended on a positive note with a surplus of \$23,000. This money will be returned to the General Fund.

A question was raised about the possibility of a need to increase the cost of perpetual care at all the cemeteries. The Director will need to research the statutes to determine if this is governed by a statute before we could consider making this increase.

Both the Director and Chair believe that it would be worthwhile to revisit the “Rules and Regulations” last revised in 2015. The Director thought this would be something that the Committee could work on at its winter meetings when things are very quiet in the cemeteries.

Motion to Adjourn was made and seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 12:27 pm.

Next scheduled meeting: September 19, 2022

Respectfully Submitted;

Starr Parnigoni LeCompte