

Staff present: April Holm, DPW Office Manager, and Ryan Martinac - Cemetery.

Council Liaison: Councilmember Scanlon was absent.

Present: Dr. Stephen Piereson, Christine Moffat, Tracy Magnuson and Karen Kasper (4). Absent: John Carlson

The Ishpeming Cemetery Board meeting was held on Monday, March 15, 2021 at the City Hall Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Member Piereson.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Member Kasper, supported by Member Magnuson and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of July 15, 2020 as presented.

COLUMBARIUM

Discussed the etching of the new columbarium Rest In Peace. Pat Gingrass was contacted and he said that he will begin the etching process sometime in the middle of May. He wanted to let the ground dry up before bringing in all of his equipment.

Ryan Martinac wanted to know what the board would like to do for materials in the space between the columbarium and the new walkways. Many different materials were discussed such as mulch, stone, growing grass or putting artificial grass down. Everyone agreed that artificial grass would be the way to go as long as it was cost effective.

Ryan was going to get pricing from various vendors and bring it back to the board at the next meeting to discuss whether it is an affordable option before bringing it in front of Council for approval.

Purchasing, naming, and the position of a future Columbarium was tabled until the next board meeting.

CEMETERY BENCHES

Bjork & Zhulkie got a request from a family member to install a granite bench somewhere in the vicinity of the Columbarium where their loved one is resting. According to the current ordinance benches are not allowed at the Cemetery. Maintenance and upkeep of the bench was discussed and also placement. The board decided to table the discussion until the next meeting so that everyone would have a chance to think about the subject further.

CEMETERY REPORT

Ryan Martinac went over the Cemetery Report for 2020. He discussed that we were slower than normal because of COVID 19 and the restrictions that were put in place.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Everyone loved the holiday lights that were installed at the Cemetery this winter.

The board brought up the idea of installing more visible signs at the entrances to the Cemetery that read “NO PETS ALLOWED”. People have been walking their dogs at the Cemetery. They also asked us to reach out to the Ishpeming Police Department to see if they can send a unit through the Cemetery daily because they have heard some complaints about questionable vehicles lingering in the Cemetery.

The next meeting in May is going to be held on site at the Cemetery to look at the placement of the columbariums, possible placement for benches, and to look at the sinkhole and discuss new road ideas.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE

The next meeting will be held May 17, 2021, in the Ishpeming Cemetery. Meeting place will be the parking lot by the columbariums.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:47 p.m., a motion was made by Member Moffatt with support from Member Kasper to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

April Holm
Recording Secretary