

## **Richfield Village Cemetery Board**

### **Minutes of the Regular Meeting Jan. 28, 2021**

Called to order at 6:35 p.m. November 24,2020.

Roll Call: Paul Swan, Jeff Stoppenhagen, Bill Taylor, Pat Healey and Jeff Ferrera.

Guests: Mayor Mike Wheeler, Service Director Chris Papp, Council Member Bobbie Beshara, Jim Milano, Joe Giaimo, Jeff Gorman

#### **Election of Officers**

Stoppenhagen nominated Swan for president. The vote for him was unanimous. Paul Swan will serve as president in 2021.

Stoppenhagen nominated Taylor for vice president. He declined. Swan nominated Stoppenhagen. The vote was unanimous. Jeff Stoppenhagen will serve as vice president in 2021.

No vote was needed for secretary, as that position was filled by the administration. Jeff Gorman will serve as secretary in 2021.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Nov. 24, 2020 Motion by Taylor, Second by Stoppenhagen, approved as corrected unanimously.

#### **Columbarium Report**

Ferrara introduced Jim Milano of Milano Monuments, along with Joe Giaimo, who has been in the cemetery industry for more than 40 years. Giaimo discussed the issue of reselling abandoned cemetery plots. According to the Ohio Revised Code 517.073, those plots can be sold after a certain number of years, he said. Giaimo said a city can order a columbarium, but it must also be set up, marketed and monitored. Milano said it could include different price points.

Milano said the village can determine a location, the amount of niches and type of materials. He shared photos with the board. Papp said Gravers could provide something to hand to a contractor, but the board would need to provide direction on the design. Swan asked if Milano could give the board a plan using a map of Fairview Cemetery.

Healey noted that Council has passed a resolution not to sell certain sites. Ferrera said people could be standing on grave sites when they visit the columbarium. Healey said it could be an octagon or hexagon rather than a wall. Giaimo said the board would lose space but could make up for it in other ways. With

24 niches in the space of one grave, the village would make 24 times the cost. Swan suggested that Milano and Papp conduct a site evaluation.

### **Rules Report**

Taylor, Healey and Stoppenhagen have worked on the rules. They would like the entire board to review the rules and make notes. Wheeler said the board could discuss the rules at the Feb. 23 meeting. Papp said the board could put a number (like 50 years) in the rules regarding when an abandoned plot could be resold.

Regarding prices for new graves, Stoppenhagen said a list was not passed by Council in 2019. Healey said the prices would be included in the new rules.

### **New business**

Papp said the board could invite Gravers & Ward to a future meeting to show what they do. Swan asked Papp to invited them to the March 23 meeting.

Taylor asked about Council's restriction on selling certain plots. It applies to four sections, or 800 square feet. Penny Rzonca arrived at 6:49 p.m. Wheeler said nothing will be sold until the columbarium is determined. Ferrera suggested a wall at the back of Fairview.

Comments from the floor

Beshara said she would update Rzonca on the meeting. Wheeler said he emailed John Hudak about the meeting. The mayor asked board members to inform him when they can't make it to a meeting.

Swan adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Gorman

Cemetery Board Secretary