

CEMETERY BOARD MINUTES

MARCH 21, 2016 – 9:30 AM

Present: Fr. Gus, Sr. Mary Ellen, Anne Mieska, John Mieska, Leo Cherek, Jim Miller, & Lorraine VanderKooy.

The meeting opened with a prayer for all those buried in our cemetery. Minutes from the prior meeting were distributed and read. A motion was made by Anne Mieska, seconded by John Mieska to approve the Minutes as written.

The first item on the agenda was the cemetery sign. Anne stated that the current sign is made of wood and is rotting and in need of replacement. She contacted Scott Dombeck to get information on the sign he has for his business, Scott indicated that he was very satisfied with his sign which is 14 years old. It was constructed by Bill Marcus Signs in Wausau. Scott then proceeded to contact Bill Marcus on behalf of the Cemetery Board to receive a quote for a new cemetery sign for our parish. The quote is for a 1 ½" x 53" x 120" high density urethane sandblasted sign for \$2500.00. This material comes in a 120" length; however, our current sign is 136", thus leaving an 8" space on each side between the sign and the brick. A discussion was held as to whether this was a great issue of concern. The Board agreed that the new dimension would be fine. All were in favor with proceeding with the sign from Bill Marcus. It would come sandblasted and painted. We will keep the same color scheme which is gray, burgundy, and green. The design of the sign would be similar to that of Dombeck Custom Cabinets. The goal for completion is the first week in June. At the time of replacing the sign, the frame and anchors will be sandblasted or wire brushed and repainted by Jim and John.

Anne mentioned that the floodlights by the current sign are yellowing and deteriorating. The Board agreed to have Anne & John purchase new floodlights similar to the one by the flagpole. They will purchase fixtures only as Jim stated that there was a supply of bulbs on site.

An electrical pole in the cemetery is leaning. John and Jim will work on straightening the pole.

A new lawn tractor/mower has been purchased for slightly over \$17,000.00. The Board agreed to pay for one-half of the lawn tractor out of cemetery funds, with the remaining balance to be paid out of the parish general account.

The brass sign on the Memorial to the Unborn is weathering and not looking very presentable. Anne received several quotes from Appleton Monument which stated that bronze will eventually patina (turn green like an old penny). Quotes were received for aluminum (\$1178.00 with cut in letters) and \$1970 with raised letters. A quote of \$1236.00 was received for black granite. The Board was interested in the granite, but further inquiries will be made to see if additional support legs would be needed due to the heavy weight. Anne will get more information and report back at the next meeting. The sign size would remain the same as the current size (30" x 24") with possibly adding a design in the center such as a cherub (baby angel).

The tiles under the benches in the cemetery are coming up as the ground is heaving. Jim and John will look at the tiles to see what can be done to alleviate the problem.

A question was raised as to who was responsible for the damage done by the vehicle recently going off Hwy 153 into the cemetery. Several monuments were broken off and badly damaged along with a telephone pole. The individual responsible is having his insurance company investigate.

The next item for discussion was the cemetery map. Due to the addition of graves in areas not shown in the previously platted map, the current map is not accurate. Lorraine will work on updating the listing of burials on the map and also suggested that a new or additional display area be made since the current display does not allow for any additional pages. John will check with Ron Mijal (who constructed the current display case) to see if an addition could be made or if an entirely new display case would be needed.

A discussion of a possible cremains garden was next on the agenda. There has been interest shown in the past to create a separate area for cremains. It was suggested to have this garden next to the Memorial to the Unborn. It was decided to have 4' x 5' lots in this area which will be started directly in front of the Memorial to the Unborn with the following requirements:

- Monuments shall have a 6" concrete base with the monument being no taller than 18" from the base, leaving the total height not to exceed 24".
- The width of each monument is limited to 2'6" (30"). The height and width would be the only restriction on the purchaser.
- The number of cremains per lot will be limited to four.
- Veteran's plaques may be placed either on the back of the monument or in the ground. The plaque is 8 ½" x 5 ½".
- All monuments must be upright. No beveled, slanted, or flat monuments are allowed.
- The fee is \$200.00 for the purchase of a lot plus \$25 clerical fee for the first person. Up to three additional cremains are allowed per lot for an additional cost of \$100 plus \$25 clerical fee for each additional person. All fees are double (with the exception of the clerical fee) for nonparishioners.

Lorraine will update the current cemetery rules and regulations to reflect these changes.

Another item discussed was possibly using the very old section with unmarked graves for cremains with monuments that would not require any below ground burials (only monuments with a niche for cremains would be allowed in this area). The Board was asked to give this idea some thought and it will be discussed in further detail at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.