

JUNE 30, 2017

Chilmark Cemetery Commission

A meeting of the Chilmark Cemetery Commission was held at Town Hall on Friday, June 30, 2017, at 2:00p.m. Present were commissioners John Flender, Harriette Otteson, Sally Cook, constituting a forum. The minutes of the May 10, 2017, were accepted and approved.

John gave out copies of the FY2017 Budget Review and his "Budget Outlook: As at June 29, 2017." A slight surplus was noted as still available for mowing. Harriette asked for clean up of back/north end of cemetery. John informed us that bills over \$500 need the approval of two of the commissioners.

John Flender announced his retirement as Chair of the Commission, and proposed Harriette Otteson to replace him. The transition from John to Harriette was approved unanimously, with date set of August 1, 2017, for the change. Harriette accepted the appointment with appreciation for the honor and for John's many years of work. John will remain on the commission through his term which ends Spring, 2018. A more definite schedule for meetings was agreed on, with the second Thursday of August set for the next meeting of the Commission, then the second Thursday of each month thereafter. Harriette asked John for information on his activities as Chair of the Cemetery Commission. John did the layouts for lots on Wild Grass Avenue and all lots in the western section. He also bounded King's quarter lots saved for those in need. Referring to the rules on grave liners, John clarified that liners are required for caskets, exception for "green burials"(shroud) and containers with the unembalmed (This topic was covered in the April 7, 2017, public hearing, where John made available printouts of the "Rules and Regulations," drafted and discussed in former commission meetings). Harriette expressed need for information on Perpetual Care(P.C.) which, John explained, is no longer active. The amount in the P.C. fund from past years is available for general cemetery use. Harriette would like to pick up all the old P.C. markers since they are no longer relevant. John and Sally approved, and John indicated the old markers can be stored in the tool shed. Further needs discussed were: straightening of No Parking sign and debris clearing, i.e. broken branches throughout cemetery as well as dead cedar trees(outside Belushi lot). John will ask Susan Murphy, Superintendent, to work on these problems and getting a stump grinder. With the date of the next meeting set for the second Thursday in August at 2p.m., this meeting was adjourned at 2:55p.m.

Sarah (Sally) Cook, Secretary

Sarah Cook 9/14/17

APPROVED