

**MIDDLETOWN CEMETERY BOARD
MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2021**

CEMETERY BOARD: Fred Tyson, Deb Snider, Ken Blandford, Charlene Kiniyalocks, Beth Birch

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE: Mayor Nicole Condrey

STAFF: Donna Beauregard, Public Works Parks Leader – Parks & Grounds

MEETING: Called to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Charlene Kiniyalocks, Fred Tyson, and Beth Birch.

Absent: Ken Blandford and Deb Snider

Also present was City Council Representative, Mayor Nicole Condrey, and City Staff Representative, Parks Leader, Donna Beauregard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charlene Kiniyalocks made a motion to approve the January 20, 2021 Minutes, Fred Tyson seconded. Motion passed.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

OLD BUSINESS

Financial Report:

Donna Beauregard reported the financial statement had not changed. Donna distributed copies of the corrected priorities list that was discussed at the last meeting.

Other Old Business

Beth Birch shared samples of three different grades of crushed steel slag she had obtained from Stein Steel Mill Services, so Board could discuss its use to cover roadways instead of gravel in the cemetery, to save money. Beth reported she has a truck driver, Doug Harlan, who would deliver the slag to the cemetery for \$16 a ton, delivered. The amount needed is estimated to be 321 tons. Downfall of the material is that it is dusty, and Charlene stated the concern about this dust on the tombstones. Beth reported that because of the gasses contained in the slag, no asphalt or concrete could be placed on top of it. The slag's appropriateness in the cemetery, as far as its historical designation, was discussed. It is believed the City's historical designation of the cemetery would not be affected by the slag, but it is not known what the state's requirements are. Beth said she would bring the samples back for our next meeting, when more members are here to discuss. Nicole Condrey suggested we go look at a driveway where it has been used to see what it looks like. Beth said she could get a location we could look at from Doug, because he has delivered all over. Nicole mentioned the possibility of obtaining a federal grant to fund the purchase of gravel.

NEW BUSINESS

Earth Day Event

Volunteers, tools, and hours of the Keep Middletown Beautiful's Earth Day Event on Saturday, April 24 was discussed. No current contact for AK Steel was known, so they will not be helping this year. Charlene Kiniyalocks reported she has picked up bags and gloves from KMB. She mentioned if rain was predicted for the 24th, she would reschedule to work in the cemetery on a different day and contact everyone. Donna Beauregard provided her contact information for Charlene to call whenever the group was done, and City crew would pick up any debris. Charlene then discussed the honeysuckle growing on the outside of the fence along the cemetery's east side that is encroaching on the cemetery. She stated the property is owned by Diver's and Cohen's. She is hoping to contact Ken Cohen and see if he would be willing to cut the honeysuckle back.

Nicole Condrey had to leave for the Citizens Advisory Board meeting, but before she left, Charlene thanked her for being instrumental in obtaining new flags for the cemetery flag pole. They will be installed on May 29th, at 10 am, prior to Memorial Day. Charlene then reported that Deb Snider is still working on getting a rock donated to use in the cemetery as a Veterans Memorial. Charlene said she is continuing to work on getting a box made for the vault. She has spoken to Alex Webb, who was interested in building it. Alex plans on going to look at the one at a cemetery in Madison Township, to get dimensions, etc. Beth reported she contacted Watson's Sand and Gravel regarding the Memorial rock. They were not interested in donating one. Beth said they are still trying to contact Journey to see if they had one they would donate. Beth said Doug Harlan would pick up the rock and deliver it to the cemetery for us.

Maintenance Report:

Donna Beauregard reported that Parks crews had levelled and seeded Margery Roots grave. She had been buried this past fall. Crew also sprayed the roadways on April 20, and weeded the two front planters. The crews continue to monitor cemetery for groundhog activity. No new activity has been found yet this year. Donna asked Board to please let her know if anyone sees new holes, so crew can set traps.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

OTHER

Next Cemetery Board meeting will be July 21, 2021.

ADJOURN

Charlene Kiniyalockts motioned to adjourn the meeting, Fred Tyson seconded, motion passed. Middletown Cemetery Board adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Ken Blandford, Chair

Donna Beaugard, Secretary