



The regularly scheduled meeting of the Town of Mahone Bay's Cemetery Committee was held on Monday, June 15th, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. via video conferencing.

Present:

Mayor D. Devenne
CAO D. Heide
Manager of Finance L. Wentzell
Deputy Clerk K. Redden
Councillor J. Bain
Councillor J. Feeney
B. Morse

Absent:

Director of Operations D. Mackenzie (Regrets)
B. Veinotte

Gallery:

Approval of Agenda

A motion by Councillor J. Feeney, seconded by B. Morse **"THAT the agenda be approved as presented."** Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion by Councillor J. Feeney, seconded by Mayor D. Devenne, **"THAT the minutes of the February 24th, 2020 Cemetery Committee be approved as presented."** Motion carried.

Cemetery Mapping Project

K. Redden presented to the Committee regarding the progress of the Park Cemetery Mapping project. Work has been done with Nick Zinck of Chester in creating a GIS map of the cemetery, and the Committee was shown the results of the information currently in the system.

The project will eventually result in a fully integrated map of Park Cemetery with contains detailed information on what plots are sold, which plots are available, and also detailed information gathered from the headstones for viewing online. The project is also helping to inform plans for the expansion of the Cemetery, which will continue to be discussed at future meetings.

Park Cemetery Boundaries

D. Heide reported to the Committee that 3 local survey companies were contacted for the project of surveying Park Cemetery and the only company to respond to date was Berrigan Surveys at a cost of \$4,700 + HST. This survey would include surveying the roads within the Cemetery.

A motion by Mayor D. Devenne, seconded by B. Morse **“THAT the Committee recommend that Council direct staff to have a survey completed of Park Cemetery.”** Motion carried.

Edgewater Streetscaping and Beautification

The Committee discussed the need to repair or replace the fencing and gate to Bayview Cemetery on Edgewater Street. CAO D. Heide mentioned how funding could potentially be received for this work and how it could be included in the larger “Beautification and Streetscaping Project”. Funding for this project would need to be applied for by the end of June.

A motion by Councilor J. Feeney, seconded by Mayor D. Devenne **“THAT the Committee recommend that Council support the inclusion of repair and/or replacement of the fence and gate at Bayview Cemetery in the 2020-21 Beautification and Streetscaping Project.”** Motion carried.

Recognition of Donation

The committee discussed the large donation that was received for Bayview Cemetery and what options are available to recognize said donation. An email will be sent to Committee members to receive feedback on what recognition options are suitable.

Natural Burials

The Committee discussed the possibility of Natural Burials again. It was decided that if this is something that is being considered, a section of the Cemetery will need to be dedicated to these specific burials and should be

factored into future planning for Cemetery expansion. B. Morse mentioned that there is an organized group that deals with Green Burials and we could reach out to them in the future when planning the possibly inclusion of Green Burial plots in Park Cemetery.

Columbarium

The Committee discussed the option of including a Columbarium in either Park or Bayview Cemeteries. J. Bain agreed that more research should be done to get more information on Columbarium and where such structures could be located in the Cemeteries. In addition, B. Morse said there are two options for Columbarium, either a free standing structure (which he expressed concerns over security, particularly at Park Cemetery), or an option that would be contained within a secured structure in the Cemetery.

New Business

Digging Trees

Councilor J. Bain inquired about the level of uptake on the Tree Removal Program in Park Cemetery as it was not being widely advertised during COVID-19 as not to attract excess traffic in the Cemetery. Mayor D. Devenne mentioned that there is currently a poster in the Post Office directing interested people to contact Val Herder. In addition, Mayor Devenne will touch base with Staff to see if it is possible to put a blurb in the Mayor's Newsletter to encourage this program.

A discussion was also had regarding the \$5,000 budget line for Trees in Park Cemetery and how the majority of this budget should be use for tree maintenance and removal.

Fee Review

Councilor J. Feeney suggested that a review of the Fee Structure of the neighboring Cemeteries be conducted to ensure the Town's Cemetery Fee Structure is on par with other local Cemeteries. Staff will contact other cemeteries in the area, and will report back to the Committee at the next meeting with the results.

Next Meeting

September 21st, 2020 at 3:30 PM

The meeting adjourned upon motion at 4:52 PM

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor David Devenne

Recording Secretary, Luke Wentzell

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