

**Minutes of the October 2024 Harwich Cemetery Commission
Monthly Meeting at the Harwich Community Center's Channel I Studio
October 3, 2024**

Steve Conner called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Rob Thompson, Steve Conner, Robbin Kelley, and Jim Stratton were in attendance.

The minutes for July and September were accepted unanimously. Rob made a motion to accept, and Steve seconded it.

Robbin discussed a survey letter from Pine Oaks Village Phase IV. Robbin responded to the survey as to how it would affect the cemetery department.

Walk of Remembrance. Robbin would like to have a "Groundbreaking" or "Shovel Moment", before the Veteran's Day Ceremony.

Tom Blute is working on engraving the cemetery signs on the bluestone tablets.

Jim Stratton reported the Cemetery Department/Highway Department needs a new Mower. The cost is \$9,000.00 per mower. Rob made a motion to purchase one new mower for \$9,000.00 and Steve seconded it for a unanimous vote. Jim stated the mowers are used 90% for cemeteries and 10% by the DPW for other mowing. We will revisit the purchase of another new mower after the first of the year.

We discussed drafting an enforcement letter to send to lot owners who are in non-compliance with the rules and regulations. The most important reason for the enforcement is for the safety of the maintenance crew. It is also a problem for birds and animals that may eat the artificial plastic berries on decorations, etc. Ribbons and flowers and other debris can blow onto neighboring lots or get into the pond. Rob made a motion and Steve seconded it to draft an enforcement letter to send out.

We discussed the Island Pond Marceline Arboretum Walkway. This would be a raised platform walking trail.

Robbin updated the list for the North Harwich Cemetery Conservation Project. She will be attending meetings for approval soon.

Meeting adjourned and next meeting will be on November 7, 2024