

**CITY OF WORCESTER**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS**  
Hope Cemetery Division 119A Webster Street Worcester, MA 01603

Paul J. Moosey, P.E.  
Commissioner



Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., CPRP  
Assistant Commissioner

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Edward M. Augustus, Jr., City Manager

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**HOPE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**JANUARY 3, 2017**

Meeting began: 4:15PM

Meeting ended: 6:42PM

**Attendance:**

William Wallace	– Chairman
Richard Perry	– Commission Member
Nicole Apostola	– Commission Member
Matthew Curewitz	– Commission Member
Robert C Antonelli Jr	– Assistant Commissioner
Stephanie Choquette	– Staff Assistant II
William Richard	– Project Manager

\*\* David Crispin – BSC Consulting Group

\*\* Thomas Daley – BSC Consulting Group

**Last Meeting's minutes approved:**

Nicole Apostola  
Matthew Curewitz  
Richard Perry

**New Business:**

1. Hope Cemetery Master Plan
  - a. A slide show presentation was given by Mr. Antonelli in regards to expansion locations for additional sections as well as burial options. Interested parties have been the Islamic-Muslim Community, Orthodox Community, and as well as the cemetery division looking to expand our indigent section. The Islamic-Muslim Community did provide the committee with paperwork in regards to their burial guidelines and amount of gravesites they would possibly require, did not receive any further information from the Orthodox Community or Mr. Haddad.
  - b. Funding will have to be considered, increase in pricing for gravesites (sizes), internments, and other factors that the cemetery provides. The question is what the division will receive from the city itself for funding also.
  - c. Residency and Non-Residency has been discussed in prior meetings, this is still being reviewed. Mr. Perry did some research in contacting surrounding cities and towns such as

Watertown, Waltham, Cambridge, and Quincy, in regards to if an individual is a non-resident of the town they cannot buy a gravesite in that town's cemetery. Mr. Antonelli stated both would be allowed resident or non the question would be the fee structure as well as to what qualifies as residency...Also will review present percentage of resident and non-resident lot owners as well as burials. The board will need to define residency.

- d. Mr. Antonelli suggests to the Board for a prioritized Action Agenda to be set up ... all members are in approval of this, he will direct that outline to the members at our next meeting. Mr. Antonelli would like to have the priorities set up by the March 2017 meeting for the immediate needs to move forward.
  - e. Mr. Wallace would like to setup a work session 6 months prior to the budget that would be allocated to the division so that as a whole the Board could possibly work on researching for supplemental funding for our upcoming projects. Example: such as the Cemetery Software program in regards to records especially
  - f. Rules and Regulations: to be reviewed by Board members any type of revisions or questions please send them to Mr. Antonelli or Stephanie at least a week prior to February meeting. Mr. Daley and Mr. Crispin will also review and make their recommendations for changes.
  - g. Double-Deep Burials - Pros and Cons (this still needs to be discussed)
    - Property, saves space
    - Initial cost will be expensive / will we be providing the vaults?
    - Size of the lots themselves
    - Memorials
    - Indigent Section
  - h. Timeline
    - February: Capital Costs, Revised Rules and Regulations, residency bullet points, what are the expected costs, allocation of sections
    - March: finalize the priorities
    - April: board Meeting
    - May: Possible City Council
  - i. Timeline after original consent
    - Design component – cost
    - Bidding approximately one month
    - Construction contracts / 3 weeks
2. Friends of Hope Cemetery: nothing at this time
- a. Working on Scheduling Spring Event

**Meeting adjourned at 6:42PM**

**Approved:**

Richard Perry  
Nicole Apostola  
Matthew Curewitz

**Next Meeting February 7, 2017 at 4:00PM Hope Cemetery Administrative Building  
CANCELLED**

**Next Meeting March 7, 2017 at 4:00PM Hope Cemetery Administrative Building**