

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

Paul J. Moosey, P.E.
Commissioner



Edward M. Augustus, Jr., City Manager

HOPE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING
March 3, 2017

Meeting began: 4:10PM

Meeting ended: 6:15PM

Attendance:

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

** David Crispin – BSC Consulting Group
** Thomas Daley – CHS Consulting Group

Richard Simonian – Representative for Muslim Community
Mohamed Elrafaei – Representative for Muslim Community

Approval of last meeting's minutes:

Matthew Curewitz
Richard Perry
Nicole Apostola

New Business:

1. Hope Cemetery Master Plan
 - a. Any development of an area will be considered for the Greek -Orthodox, Muslim, and indigent organizations in moving forward.

- b. In scheduling the funding it will be the Fiscal year budget of 2018, which starts July 2017. This would need approval of the City Manager, the Commission, and City Council.
- c. Beginning of the design could be as early as July 1st upon authorization.
- d. Best case scenario the design process would take 3-4 months (review and development)
- e. Bidding would be during the timeframe of winter 2017 thru 2018
- f. Upon being the work awarded to the contractor (around March of 2018)
- g. Possibly construction could begin Spring 2018 weather permitting
- h. With the intention of possibly completing in the Fall of 2018
- i. Smaller areas could be developed regarding particular lots
- j. List of priorities will need to be decided on for the initial cost for the project would be estimated at approximately 1.25 million dollars in the development of areas # 1 and # 5.

Mr. Richard Simonian (Muslim Community) asked if there would be a possibility that a small segment of land could be allocated, if there could be some flexibility in smaller developments at certain locations ... Mr. Antonelli stated that could be something to look into in moving forward. Mr. Simonian also stated that the development of a cemetery in Dudley is not an option for the Muslim Community.

2. Administration Review of Policies for Hope Cemetery

- a. License of Burial
- b. Conditions and restrictions
- c. Selling back of lots to only the city of Worcester
- d. Perpetual Care: the money goes to the Trust Committee where the money is placed investments. The money at this time is being used for paying off the debt on the Hope Cemetery Administrative Building. So the money is not available anything else at the current time.
- e. Internment Authorization Forms
- f. Specifications for Gravesites and Monuments
- g. Applications in regards to memorials
- h. Assisted Burials (purchasing the lots, forms need to be revised)

Mr. Antonelli Jr. stated that the breakdowns for the priorities are as follows # 1 as the highest;

- 1. Development
- 2. Security (cameras at the entrance, gates, with lighting)
- 3. Digitizing cemetery records
- 4. Roadway Repair
- 5. Fence repair

6. Maintenance Facility

Mr. Antonelli Jr. asking the board to make a motion in accepting the list of priorities in this order so it can be forwarded to City Manager for processing and acceptance of approval

Motion to do so

Scot Zoback	Yes
Matthew Curewitz	Yes
Richard Perry	Yes
Nicole Apostola	Yes

Old Business:

1. Water System: replacing spigots with new ones
2. Fiscal and Capital Budget: working on that now
3. Mausoleums: are reviewed by cemetery personnel as well as nighttime Parks Security

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM

Approved:

Scott Zoback
Matthew Curewitz
Richard Perry

Next Meeting April 4, 2017 at the Hope Cemetery Administrative Building