

Village of Bellaire

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Helen Schuckel, Chair

Terry Smith (Forest Home Twp.)

David Schulz (Village Council)

MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2010

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Schuckel called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.
2. **Roll Call Attendance**
 - Present:** Chairman Schuckel, David Schulz
 - Absent:** Terry Smith
 - Staff Present:** Ken Stead (Cemetery Sexton), Janet Koch (Village Clerk)
 - Also Present:** N/A
3. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as written.
 - Motion by Schulz, seconded by Schuckel, to approve the agenda as presented.**
 - Motion carried by voice vote.**
4. **Approval of the June 24, 2010 Meeting Minutes:** The minutes were approved.
 - Motion by Schuckel, seconded by Schulz, to approve the minutes of June 24, 2010 as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.**
5. **Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None presented.
6. **Old Business**
 - a) **Review of Rules and Regulations** – Schuckel said that Mancelona’s cemetery rules state that flowers must be in line with the headstones.
 - D. Schulz said the worst violators of the current ordinance are to the back of the cemetery and aren’t visually intrusive. He suggested that current violators could be sent a reminder letter of the existing rules and regulations. Schulz said he wouldn’t like to strictly enforce the existing ordinance as it could create ill feeling with many families.
 - H. Schuckel suggested adding all of Section 29-8 (Perpetual care and ground maintenance) to the Rules and Regulations that are provided when a cemetery lot is purchased. Shultz suggested adding 29-7 (Cemetery markers and monuments), too.
 - Schulz said Mortensen’s Funeral Home should be given the revised Rules and Regulations so copies can be provided to the families of people recently interred in Lakeview Cemetery. He suggested that, except for especially flagrant violations, the existing gravesite decorations should be allowed to stay, but that families who have loved ones interred in the future will be held to the ordinance.
 - Schuckel said it might be worthwhile to send letters suggesting that plantings be kept near the headstone for easier maintenance.

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Koch brought up the issue of record keeping, saying that to keep track of existing gravesite decorations and any changes in decorations with any accuracy and timeliness might be difficult. Schulz said only the gravesites in violation would need to be logged and grandfathered in as acceptable on the date village council approves. If, at any time after that, a gravesite is found to be newly in violation, the family will be notified. Stead recommended that the Cemetery Sexton be allowed to remove items deemed in violation and store items of any value to return to the family.

Motion by Schulz, seconded by Schuckel, to recommend to village council that the Rules and Regulations for Lakeview Cemetery dated June 15, 1989 be updated to reflect Section 29-7 Cemetery markers and monuments and Chapter 29-8 Perpetual care and ground maintenance.

During the following discussion, Koch asked if the committee is considering any changes to Section 29-8. She said without any changes with regard to location of plantings or some limitation to plantings and other decorative objects, that the maintenance will continue to be an increasing cost to the village.

Motion to recommend to village council that the Rules and Regulations for Lakeview Cemetery dated 6-15-1989 be updated to include Section 29-8 Perpetual care and ground maintenance and Section 29-7 Cemetery markers and monuments withdrawn by D. Schulz and H. Schuckel.

Motion by Schulz, seconded by Schuckel, to have the Cemetery Sexton and the Clerk review Sections 29-7 and 29-8 and propose changes in the ordinance to reflect committee discussion of plantings and decor. Motion carried by voice vote.

7. **New Business:** None presented.
8. **Discussion Items:** None presented.
9. **Communications/Informational:** None presented.
10. **Member/Public Comment:** None presented.
11. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Compiled by: _____
Janet Koch, Clerk

Approved: _____
Helen Schuckel, Chair

Date: _____