South Hero Cemetery Bylaws

Signed 0n 03/24/2022

The following guidelines have been formulated after due consideration for the benefit of the public, lot owners, and in the best interest of the perpetual care and maintenance of the final resting place of the dead.

Any guidelines may be amended at any time by a majority vote of Commissioners. The purchase price of a burial lot or any necessary fees shall be set by the Commission. The lot shall be held indivisible and upon decease of a proprietor, the title shall descend to the heirs subject to established Vermont estate laws. No burials will be allowed without purchase or without the assignment of an owned lot to the deceased. Assignments must be done in writing. All burial requests must be done in a timely manner and accompanied with a burial permit for recording in the Town clerk’s office.

The cemetery commission shall consist of three duly elected citizens of South Hero. The term of office is three years. Two commissioners shall constitute a quorum. The Commission is charged with establishing and implementing policies and guidelines for the on-going care of the town cemetery. Meetings shall be held on an annual basis, or as needed. All approved expenditures shall be subject to competitive bid. The records, minutes and accounts shall be kept on file and made available to the public at the Town Clerk’s office.

Burial lots offered for sale will be finalized at the time of sale. Owner of said lot will receive a deed stating size, location and price of said lot. The commissioner will go over the rules and regulations of the Cemetery at the time of the sale.

The Commission reserves the right to remove any tree, shrub, plant, vase, flower, turf, urn, basket, container, candle, wreath, artificial flower, flag, deteriorated marker, or other memorial object when it becomes detrimental to the safety or appearance of the cemetery.

The Cemetery Commission has no desire to interfere with the exercise of individual tastes in the selection and erection of monuments, although all monuments are subject to the approval, supervision and control of the Cemetery Commission. No monument or memorial shall be set up on any lot or grave if in the opinion of the Commission, injury to the turf might result.

At interment, all coffins shall be deposited in a concrete outer box, normally referred to as a vault or receiving case. Interment of all urns or vessels containing Cremains, (cremated remains) shall be deposited in a grave at least 24 inches deep by 24 inches wide. If a vault or receiving case is used the grave must be dug 30 inches deep by 24 inches wide. The identification and opening of the grave and completion of the interment shall be supervised by a Commissioner. All funeral processions, while in the cemetery will be under direction of a Funeral Director with guidance by a commissioner. Disinterment shall be allowed only subject to the order of a constituted legal authority.

The funeral home and or the excavation company of the lot will be responsible for all necessary finish grading, replacing of sod and or planting of seed. A cremation grave may only be dug by the family of the deceased with prior approval of the Cemetery Commission. All necessary grading and sod replacement or seeding will be the responsibility of that person.

The Cemetery Commission will work with the family to identify the burial lot, if the deceased has not purchased a lot we will work with the family to locate and mark said lot.

Lot sizes are:

Single lot identified as a traditional casket burial is

3.6ft by12ft. (42sqft)

Single lot identified as a cremation lot only: 3.6ft by 12ft (42sqft) depending on the situation may contain up to 4 cremations subject to verification of use (using vault) South Hero cemetery does not require receiving cases or vaults for cremation urns.

2 casket lot: 7ft by 12ft (84sqft)

4 casket lot: 14ft by 12ft (168sqft)

6 casket lot: 20ft by 12ft (240sqft)

Single lot prices are: $400.00

2 casket lot price: $750.00

4 casket lot price: $1400.00

All monuments and corner markers must be approved by a commissioner. The commissioner will properly mark the locations before placement.

Maintenance of grounds:

The care of the cemetery will be done on a timely basis, the grounds will be mowed and trimmed. We are not responsible for falling monuments or broken monuments unless caused by our grounds crew.