

## CREMATORY STUDY COMMITTEE MINUTES

JULY 20, 2009  
TOWN OFFICES, ROOM 307  
LITTLETON, MA 01460

### **Members Present:**

Jeff Boone  
Richard Crowley  
Cathleen Case  
Steve Desisto  
Charlie Ellis  
Mary Gosby  
Joe Knox  
Dick Montiminy  
Peter Yapp

- 2.01 Meeting called to order at 7:10p.m.
- 2.02 Approved 7-6-09 minutes as amended
- 2.03 Mary Gasby reported on her phone call to Mt. Auburn. She submitted a written review of the phone call noting that Mt. Auburn invited all the members of the CSC to visit. Discussion ensued. Jeff Boone noted he would like to visit the municipal crematory in Duxbury and Dick Montiminy stated he would like to visit both. Peter Yapp questioned whether visits could be scheduled after the presentation by Matthews, (Matthews is a manufacturer of retorts) on August 31st. and BSG Group of Boston (BSC designs crematoriums for Municipalities) on August 03rd. With these dates reserved the CSC decided to reserve the week of 9/14/09 for field trip to Duxbury and have BSG set up tour for CSC.
- 2.04 Charlie Ellis will call Nikki Tsongas to see if she can get an expert from EPA to speak to us on crematoriums. Joe Knox will try to get a medical examiner. Rich Crowley will try to get the person he has talked with at DEP to come to one of our meetings too. Jeff Boone is trying to get a person from an environmental consortium to speak to this group too.
- 2.05 Joe Knox went to the whiteboard on the wall and wrote the six principal directives given to this committee by the Selectmen. Those are:
- 2.06 **Public Health**, Dick Montiminy noted that Public health and Public Safety should be considered together when reporting back to the Selectmen. Joe Knox noted that under public Health and Public Safety, consideration should be given to information from the Medical examiner, DEP, & EPA.
- 2.07 **Public Safety**,
- 2.08 **Public Works**, Dick Montiminy noted that Public Works, Operational, and Financial aspects should be considered together when reporting back to the Selectmen.

- 2.09 **Operational aspects**, Steve Desisto asked if the Town wanted to be in the business of running a crematory. Charlie Ellis noted the Town already has “enterprise funds” with the Light & Water Department, and School Department which both take in taxpayers and users money to pay for their operating costs
- 2.10 **Financial aspects**, Joe Knox noted that the Cemetery Commission would need to add more help to make a crematorium work, and recommended that they provide this commission with a business plan. Dick Montiminy noted we could ask Duxbury for a copy of their business plan too.
- 2.11 **Quality of Life** aspects. Steve Desisto stated that he believed that emissions would affect the quality of life in Littleton. Dick Montiminy asked the group how a quality of life issue could be determined and measured. Charlie Ellis noted that Religious groups in Town could be polled for any specific issues regarding crematoriums with the goal of finding out their position. Charlie Ellis may try to contact the Council of Churches.
- 2.12 Steve Desisto noted that the category “**OTHER**” should be included as a category.
- 2.13 Joe Knox noted that the following presentations have been scheduled  
8/03/09 – Dave Crispin, BSG Group (Designs Crematoriums)  
8/31/09 - Steve Talley, Matthews Rep.
- 2.14 Peter Yapp – Discussed air testing again and noted Middlesex Materials has air quality test records. Discussion ensued regarding who does the testing. Jeff Boone asked Rich Crowley to see if he can get test records for the crematorium in Worcester when talking to the DEP representative for that area.
- 2.15 Dick Montiminy recommended cemetery commission update their business plan to help the CSC better understand the financial aspects. Mary Gasby agreed to ask Cemetery Commission for updated plan.
- 2.16 Steve Desisto and Joe Knox will perform a survey of real estate values up/down in Duxbury and Littleton.
- 2.17 **ACTION:** Joe Knox to contact Keith Bergman about this Conflict of Interest
- 2.18 **VOTE:** Charlie Ellis – motioned to adjourn. Jeff Boone seconded, no discussion, Vote was unanimous.
- 2.19 **Next Meeting:** August 3rd, 7 PM, room 307, Town Hall

Correction/Addendum to July 22, 2009 Meeting:

Cathleen Case raised the question of Conflict of Interest re. Mr. Badger’s involvement in the Crematory Project. He is the Chairmen of the Cemetary Commission, and a private undertaker. Rich, Dick, and Peter disagreed. Mr. Knox stated that most people make a phone call to the Ethics Commission.

**ACTION:** Joe Knox to contact Keith Bergman about this Conflict of Interest

Meeting Adjourned