



Agenda Abstract

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date:	Feb. 26, 2024
Department:	Community Services
Agenda Section:	Regular
Public hearing:	No
Date of public hearing:	N/A

PRESENTER/INFORMATION CONTACT

Stephanie Trueblood, Public Space & Sustainability Manager

ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED

Subject: Cemetery and Pet Waste Issues

Attachments:

Sign Images – cemetery rules, “poop fairy” and leash signage

Summary:

In response to resident concerns regarding behavior at the Margaret Lane Cemetery and overall concerns with increased off-leash dogs and uncollected pet waste, staff has prepared an update on current and upcoming activities and will solicit feedback from the board. A summary of the current information is below.

- Work is underway to place updated rules signs at all three cemeteries (see attached images).
- There is an active “poop fairy” campaign including signage (attached), WHUP interviews and press releases to address the town wide issue of pet waste. There was a WHUP interview that covered both topics on Feb. 16.
- A new leash sign will be rotated in identified problem areas (see attachment).
- There are not currently specific regulations in the town code regarding cemetery behavior, which limits enforcement options.
- Cemeteries have historically been used for socializing and passive recreation, and there are differing schools of thought in the recreation profession as to the appropriate level of activity.
- Leash laws are governed by Orange County, with no enforcement that town staff is aware of.
- Uncollected pet waste is a source of nonpoint pollution for our waterways and a concern for stormwater and environmental services.
- Staff will continue to provide community information via public space and stormwater related press releases, social media and other outlets, including an upcoming community newsletter.

Financial impacts:

Minimal cost for signage fabrication and installation. If the board desires other active enforcement, there will be additional costs.

Staff recommendation and comments:

None.

Action requested:

Provide feedback on proposed plans and any additional necessary regulations.