

## **DISCUSSION PAPER # 1**

### ***CEMETERY MASTER PLAN, VISION STATEMENT & HISTORICAL OVERVIEW***

Friends Poulsbo Cemetery, Revised February 25, 2018

**DISCUSSION GOAL** - Prepare for the Poulsbo Municipal Cemetery Master Plan and discussion with representatives of North Kitsap Cemeteries the importance of a cemetery's history; having a vision statement and a plan to implement that vision.

**PURPOSE POULSBO MUNICIPAL CEMETERY MASTER PLAN** - The purpose of the Master Plan is to provide overall guidance for future improvements, maintenance, and use of the Poulsbo Municipal Cemetery. This document will be the basis for the Mayor, City Council, and City Staff to make decisions and conduct administrative/fiduciary responsibilities on behalf of the Cemetery. The Master Plan is also intended to coordinate the participation of individuals and organizations in achieving the vision of the Poulsbo Municipal Cemetery.

**PROPOSED VISION STATEMENT POULSBO MUNICIPAL CEMETERY** - The Poulsbo Municipal Cemetery will be a respectful site which serves not only as a final resting place, but also as an open air historical space celebrating Poulsbo heritage. Successful accomplishment of the mission will provide the community with:

- A haven for reflection and remembrance;
- A welcoming park-like setting;
- A tangible link between Poulsbo past, present, and future;
- An educational site where all generations may learn more about families and people who helped shape Poulsbo;
- A peaceful, timeless, contemplative respite from the rigors of daily living;
- A place to commemorate the lives and service of members of the Poulsbo community;
- Opportunities for individuals and organizations to engage in activities honoring veterans, this site and the people interred here;
- An organizational structure and funding mechanism to accomplish the mission and vision, and
- A broader public awareness of this community asset.

**HISTORICAL OVERVIEW POULSBO MUNICIPAL CEMETERY** - The Poulsbo Cemetery was established by the Poulsbo municipal government in 1911, when 10 acres were purchased by Mayor Peter Iverson, acting for the Town of Poulsbo. Today, the cemetery is 5 acres. First interments took place in 1912. In keeping with customary cemetery practice at that time, the expectation then was that families would purchase blocks of plots and maintain the graves of their family members, although individual plots were also sold. Over the years, there have been several efforts by city council members and mayors to improve the cemetery's appearance and functions, with the most recent comprehensive exploration of alternatives taking place in 2003-2006. Yet issues remain and the effort to find solutions continues.

**Email comments and suggestions on these discussion topics to:**

Friends Poulsbo Cemetery Discussion Leader Jeff Bauman at: [jeff.bauman47@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.bauman47@gmail.com)

**Friends Poulsbo Cemetery** is a discussion group. Papers on a Poulsbo Cemetery Master Plan and issues and needs of North Kitsap cemeteries are circulated via email for comment and suggestions. The goal is for cemetery representatives to find consensus on what is best for North Kitsap communities and the cemeteries located in those communities.