

NANTUCKET CEMETERY COMMISSION
Posted Meeting of December 13, 2023, at 3:00 pm
DPW Conference Room, 188 Madaket Road, with Zoom Connectivity

FINAL AND APROVED MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioners: Frances Karttunen, Scott McIver, Allen Reinhard (Chair), Lee Saperstein (by Zoom), and Barbara White; Charlie Polachi, DPW.

Note on Zoom connection: The correct link for the Cemetery Commission is
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85669907430?pwd=UCtldFlPSE9VTitrU05CVTJyOWkydz09>

1. Call to Order.

Allen Reinhard called the meeting to order at 3:11 pm. He apologized for the delay in starting, which was caused by log-in problems with Zoom. He reminded participants that the session was being recorded:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxHBe1eQVvo&list=PL49sKqpy7VAhIyX1ozdd1bZ3zV8kXFp8M&index=42>. A roll-call of attendees showed that a quorum existed.

2. Public and Commissioner Comments.

With no members of the public present, there were no public comments. Commissioner Frances Karttunen talked about planting additional daffodil bulbs and the continued use of the Garden Club grant. If there are funds remaining, she noted that we should buy and plant daffodils to the extent allowed by existing funds. Charlie Polachi said that he would check into the fund's status, including whether it is in Town account or controlled by the Garden Club. [Action: Charlie Polachi to determine daffodil fund status.]

3. Approval of Minutes from November 8, 2023.

Scott McIver moved approval of the minutes of the November 8, 2023, meeting, Barbara White seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous roll-call vote of those present.

4. Approval of Lot Sales Since the Last Meeting.

No lots have been sold; hence, no approvals were needed.

5. Installation of New Lot Corner Markers at Polpis.

Scott McIver reported that he had installed almost all of the new corner markers in Polpis Cemetery. Allen Reinhard thanked him and said that, because each marker indicates the four lots surrounding it, each had to be installed with the correct orientation. They went into rows A through G, numbers 2 through 8. When done, it was seen that four were missing. He commented that markers in rows A and B, numbers 9 through 24, are yet to come. Also, he

would like to re-install markers in rows J through C, numbers 21 to 29. Scott McIver volunteered, once again, to help.

6. Proposal to Expand Commission Membership.

Based on earlier discussions on how to add new, younger members to the commission, Allen Reinhard reported that he had discussed the matter with Maureen Coleman, Public Records Compliance Officer, who said that, as a regulatorily established commission (q.v. Cemetery Commission page and link to Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2011), we would need to go through several formal steps. She recommended that we start with the Town Manager, Libby Gibson, and her Operations Administrator, Erika Mooney, who can, through the Select Board, initiate a request to expand. Allen Reinhard said that he would ask to meet with Erika Mooney. [Action: Allen Reinhard to meet with Erika Mooney on commission size.]

While the commission meetings are open to all, the question of whether or not to expand remains. Also, there is the possibility of creating the position of alternate member, which has the benefit of meeting quorum requirements if regular members are absent. Scott McIver asked if the commissioners would consider remaining at five members. Barbara White noted that Hillary Rayport had experience with committee size and membership. She volunteered to contact Hillary Rayport to get a report on changes made to the Nantucket Historical Commission.

7. Monument Restoration Project Update.

Charlie Polachi reported that the contractor, Ludlow Memorial, will be on Island on the Monday following this meeting to work on memorials in the Quaker Cemetery. Lee Saperstein suggested that Allen Reinhard contact Josh Balling, Editor of the Inquirer and Mirror, to see if the paper would be interested in reporting on this work. He felt that this was good idea; he also intends to inform Holly Backus, Preservation Planner, of this work.

8. Newtown Cemetery: Update on Plan for Lot Consolidation.

Allen Reinhard reported, that once again, there has been no activity from the Town on confirming the status of Newtown as a legal cemetery. Lee Saperstein suggested that the Commission ask the Town Manager to schedule a committee report on this matter to the Select Board as soon as practicable. As reported at last-month's meeting, important maintenance work at Newtown is held up by the delay. He noted that the Commission's motion to protect Newtown Cemetery was made on June 14, 2018, and sent via e-mail to the Town Manager on the same day. Lee Saperstein reviewed the contents of this motion and memorandum. Frances Karttunen and Barbara White felt that a visit to Newtown by commissioners would be timely.

9. Old, New, Other Business and Final Comments.

There were no requests to discuss additional items, thus Allen Reinhard suggested that the meeting adjourn, which happened by acclamation.

10. Adjournment.

Adjournment was at 3:50 pm by acclamation.

Next regular meeting: Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 3:00 pm, in the DPW conference room at 188 Madaket Road. For those who wish to attend virtually, a Zoom link will also be sent to Commissioners.

Respectfully submitted: _____; Date: 12/18/2023

Lee W. Saperstein, Secretary

Nantucket Cemetery Projects List:

- Consolidation of lots at Newtown Cemetery with recordable ground survey: Awaiting action.
- Begin Monument Restoration at the Historic Coloured and Quaker Cemeteries.
- Ongoing, D-2 treatment of monuments.
- Fencing at the Historic Coloured Cemetery.
- Fencing, and brush removal at New and Old North Cemeteries.
- New map needed for Polpis addition of new lots.