

NANTUCKET CEMETERY COMMISSION
Posted Meeting of May 8, 2024, at 3:00 pm
DPW Conference Room, 188 Madaket Road, with Zoom Connectivity

FINAL AND APPROVED MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioners: Frances Karttunen, Scott McIver, Allen Reinhard, Lee Saperstein, and Barbara White; Tracy MacDonald (left at 3:26 pm), Town of Nantucket Real-Estate Specialist, Charlie Polachi, DPW, Cemetery Administrator. There was a quorum at all times.

1. Call to Order.

Allen Reinhard called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm and started to record the meeting:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpT41z5VFJI&list=PL49sKqpy7VAhIyX1ozdd1bZ3zV8kXfp8M&index=47>.

2. Public and Commissioners Comments.

Frances Karttunen reported that she had met Walter Trusz and his son of Ludlow Memorials at the Historic Coloured Cemetery, where they will be completing the current restoration contract; Walter Trusz mentioned that he had already visited Newtown Cemetery so that he would be prepared to respond to a request-for-bid call for Newtown. Charlie Polachi added that he had talked to Walter Trusz about removing the metal bars from the corner posts of cemetery lots.

Frances Karttunen also reported that Barbara White and she have received full funding from the Offshore Wind Fund to create a video tour of the Historic Colored Cemetery. This is a result of the application that we made earlier and was reported in the February minutes.

3. Minutes of April 10, 2024, and Roll Call.

Scott McIver's move to approve the minutes of April 10, 2024, was seconded by Barbara White, and approved unanimously by a roll-call vote of all present (Frances Karttunen, aye; Scott McIver, aye; Allen Reinhard, aye; Lee Saperstein, aye; and Barbara White, aye).

4. Approval of Lot Sales since Last Meeting.

Allen Reinhard noted that, while he has fielded inquiries, there were no new lot sales to be approved. Lee Saperstein suggested that the Commission deal with Tracy MacDonald's request for approval of inurnment of her grandfather's remains in a lot in Newtown and for the memorial stone. As noted in the attached copies, Robert R. Reed's remains, if approved, would be interred on May 26th, which would be his 100th birthday. Allen Reinhard noted that, because burial is planned for Newtown, there is substantial latitude in the stone's size and shape. If approved, the DPW would open the grave the day before and close it the day after. Frances Karttunen moved approval of the two applications, Barbara White seconded, and they were approved unanimously by a roll-call vote of all present (Frances Karttunen, aye; Scott McIver, aye; Allen Reinhard, aye; Lee Saperstein, aye; and Barbara White, aye).

5. Monument Restoration Project Update.

A brief report on monument restoration progress was given in the Comments section, Agenda Item 2.

6. Newtown Cemetery Legal Status Update.

Tracy MacDonald reported that she has started a conversation with Andrew Vorce about Newtown but that she needed a formal action from the Commission that she could share with the Town. Lee Saperstein said that he would send her the formal request from 2018 and the title search that he had done in 2016. [Action: send materials to Tracy MacDonald; items have been sent, plus recent e-mails between the Town Manager and the Commission.]

Lee Saperstein reported that Town Meeting had approved the Community Preservation Committee grant budget in the consent agenda; that budget includes \$150,000 for cemeteries. He presumed that the CPC will be notifying the Commission in due course of the disposition of the Commission's application for funds; at which time requests for bids for Newtown and New North Cemeteries could be prepared.

7. Polpis Cemetery Updates.

Tracy MacDonald briefed the Commission on Polpis and its potential resolution. She noted that the idea of a land swap, while seeming good on the surface, would run into problems because the neighbor's land was recorded through the Massachusetts Land Court and any action, such as the swap, would require Land Court approval. The application would be onerous and the delays for action could amount to years. Instead, she said that she is pursuing a license for the Town to recognize the encroachment of an outbuilding onto the Cemetery that would grant permission for the encroachment to remain for as long as this building survives. The license would not transfer to any structure built to replace the outbuilding should this building collapse or be demolished. Lee Saperstein asked if this licensing action would mean that the Commission would control the cemetery to the fence line. "Yes," was the reply. Allen Reinhard then said that clearance of brush should continue up to the existing boundaries. He asked also, "who paid the surveyor?", to which Charlie Polachi and Tracy MacDonald said that they would check.

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

Lee Saperstein had told the Commissioners at the last meeting that he was going to research the Cemetery Regulations for the full-burial, lot-size requirement in anticipation of changing it to 4-ft by 8-ft, from 4-ft by 10-ft, which will conform to the same requirement at the Prospect Hill Cemetery. It can be found as part of Item III. on page 4 of the regulations, which in turn are on the Commission's web site. Scott McIver, who first brought up the need for this amendment, moved the regulatory change, Frances Karttunen seconded, and it was approved unanimously by a roll-call vote of all present (Frances Karttunen, aye; Scott McIver, aye; Allen Reinhard, aye; Lee Saperstein, aye; and Barbara White, aye). Lee Saperstein then said that this would probably require a public hearing and he would consult with Erika Mooney, Operations Administrator,

and Maureen Coleman, Public Records Compliance Officer. The amended regulations are attached to these minutes.

Next, Frances Karttunen reported to Charlie Polachi that there are two volunteer shrubs in the Historic Coloured Cemetery that need to be trimmed. She then acknowledged Barbara White's efforts in generating ideas for the forthcoming video of that cemetery as well as creating a script for it. Allen Reinhard noted that there is now a flag flying on the new flagpole at Newtown and he is pleased at the accomplishments made on items on the projects list.

10. Adjournment.

Adjournment was at 3:38 pm by acclamation.

Next regular meeting: Wednesday, June 12, 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: 5/10/24
Lee W. Saperstein, Secretary

Nantucket Cemetery Projects List (as printed on the agenda):

- Legal status of Newtown Cemetery with recorded survey. Awaiting action.
- Monument Restoration at Historic Coloured and Quaker Cemeteries. Begin Spring 2024.
- Fencing and brush removal at New and Old North Cemeteries. Work order needed.
- Fencing and brush removal at Historic Coloured Cemetery along Land Bank boundary,
- Installation of Corner Markers and New Map at Polpis Cemetery.
- Ongoing, D-2 treatment of monuments.



Town of Nantucket Department of Public Works

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CEMETERY COMMISSION
Order for Interment

Decedent's Name: ROBERT R. REED

Date of Interment: May 26, 2024

Time of Interment: _____ (One-week advance notice required)

Lot Number: M-18 ☒ Plan ☐ Section ☐ Subdivision number

Cemetery: ☒ Newtown Cemetery ☐ Polpis Burial Ground ☐ Other: _____

Date of Death: 04/07/2014 Place of Death: Nantucket, MA

Age: 89 Place of Birth: Boston, MA

Marital Status: ☐ Married ☐ Widowed ☒ Single ☐ Divorced ☐

I hereby certify that I am the (give relationship) granddaughter of the above-named decedent and that this is your authority to make disposition of the remains of said decedent as above indicated. I hereby further certify that I have the legal right to make this authorization and agree to hold the Town of Nantucket harmless from and liability on account of such authorization and interment.

Tracy Reed MacDonald

Telephone: 339-235-0365

Email: tmacdonald5269@gmail.com

Witnessed by:

Date: 05/07/2024

Note: Every order for interment must be signed by the lot owner, and after the decease of said owner, by one of the heirs to the lot, or some otherwise authorized person.

Office Use: Receipt #: _____ Deed #: _____ Entries: Interment Book ☐ Interment Card ☐ Lot Owner Card ☐ Plot Sheet ☐ Sale of Lots: _____ Endowment: _____ Opening: _____ Arrangement: _____ Premiums: _____ Total Due: _____	Special Instructions:	<table border="1"><tr><td>1.</td><td>2.</td></tr><tr><td>3.</td><td>4.</td></tr></table> Indicate location of burial by circling number in box	1.	2.	3.	4.
1.	2.					
3.	4.					
Important Notice: This Interment Order is not considered authenticated until the information is confirmed by a member of the Town of Nantucket Cemetery Staff						
Office Use: CONFIRMED WITH: _____ DATE: ____/____/____ TIME: _____ BY: _____						



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CEMETERY COMMISSION
MONUMENT INSTALLATION APPLICATION

The undersigned hereby gives permission to: Henry T. Crosby & Son (Monument Company)

Doing business at: 672 Main Street, Harwich, MA 02645 (Company address)

To erect a monument as described on this form and agrees that the Nantucket Department of Public Works, Cemetery Commission shall have the right to refuse or remove said monument, if it does not conform to the Rules and Regulations or to the description as set forth below. All markers must be approved by the Cemetery Commission prior to installation, and approval must be received by applicant prior to installation. The monument company will be responsible for installing foundation for all stone installations.

Cemetery: Newtown

- I. Lot: M-18
- II. Graves #: 4 cremains
- III. Overall Height: 24.1"
- IV. Length: 36"
- V. Width: 14"
- VI. Material: BARRE GRANITE
(VERMONT - GRAY)

Thomas J. Blute
APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

Please sketch proposed monument below (or attach plan to form):

May 7, 2024
DATE

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

Cemetery Administrator: _____
PRINT NAME SIGNATURE DATE

Cemetery Commission: _____
PRINT NAME SIGNATURE DATE

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