

NANTUCKET CEMETERY COMMISSION
Posted Meeting of October 8, 2025, at 3:00 pm
DPW Conference Room, 188 Madaket Road, with Zoom Connectivity

DRAFT MINUTES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Attendance, by Roll Call: Commissioners: Jascin Finger, Frances Karttunen (by Zoom), Scott McIver, Allen Reinhard, and Lee Saperstein; Charlie Polachi, DPW, Cemetery Administrator. It was determined by roll call that there was a quorum at all times. Frances Karttunen had a brief problem logging into the Zoom portal; for reference, the correct Zoom link is

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86337037514?pwd=cUTROpCbZz4jjEqvO1G73lvsqWgQxE.1>

Meeting ID: 863 3703 7514

Passcode: 983505

1. Call to Order.

Allen Reinhard called the meeting to order at 3:09 pm and recording of the meeting started: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPyu08L4_g4&list=PL49sKqpy7VAhIyX1ozdd1bZ3zV8kXFp8M&index=65.

2. Public and Commissioners Comments.

With no members of the public present, there were no public comments.

3. Minutes of September 10, 2025.

Allen Reinhard asked for approval of the minutes of September 10, 2025; Scott McIver made that motion and Jascin Finger seconded it; it was approved unanimously by roll-call vote (Allen Reinhard, aye; Jascin Finger, aye; Frances Karttunen, aye; Scott McIver, aye; and Lee Saperstein, aye.).

4. Approval of Lot Sales or Other Forms Since the Last Meeting. Although there have been inquiries about purchasing lots in Polpis, none has produced an application; hence no approvals were needed.

5. Project Updates: Fencing at Polpis and the Historic Coloured Cemetery.

Charlie Polachi reported that the DPW is ready to install fencing at Polpis and the Historic Coloured Cemetery and needs on-site directions from Allen Reinhard. He is to set up a meeting with Ray Sylvia or Nic Duarte at the cemeteries. [Action: Allen Reinhard to meet with Ray Sylvia or Nic Duarte, DPW, at Polpis.]

5. Monument Restoration Project Update: Newtown Cemetery and New North Cemetery.

Charlie Polachi reported on the progress of monument restoration at Newtown Cemetery. Invitations for Bids for New North Cemetery will be released on Tuesday, October 14th. He said, also, that a project amendment has been given to allow for a GPR survey of the section of Old North Cemetery that has no visible headstones. There is a supposition that the original monuments were wooden; it is much safer to survey that portion of the survey to confirm its use as a burial ground.

Frances Karttunen mentioned that there are two monuments in the Quaker Cemetery, close to the corner by the Madaket and Quaker Roads intersection, that appear not to have been cleaned. Charlie Polachi said that he would look into their condition.

6. Newtown Cemetery Legal Status Update.

The Real Estate Specialists are still doing a title search of Newtown Cemetery.

7. Update on Video of Historic Coloured Cemetery and Public Showings.

Frances Karttunen reported that the video will be projected to the public at the Dreamland Theater on October 19th and an assessment of attendance will be made.

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

Scott McIver noted that several commission members needed to meet with Charlie Polachi at Polpis Cemetery to install the final array of corner markers. Charlie said that he needed to order the needed markers with their correct lot numbers. As soon as they arrive, he will set up a meeting at the cemetery. [Action: Charlie Polachi to order markers; installation with Scott McIver.]

Frances Karttunen noted that there appears to be some manner of construction on Wyers Way, immediately adjacent to Old North Cemetery, and she hopes that it will not impinge on the cemetery. Allen Reinhard said that, while Wyers Way is a private way, the Land Bank holds an easement on it and he will investigate the activity.

Lee Saperstein asked about the proposed project to develop a census of burials in the Quaker Cemetery. Frances Karttunen said that she and Barbara White intend to take on this project sometime in the new year.

Frances Karttunen also asked about reviewing, with an eye toward approving, proposals for a monument to Absalom Boston and his wife. Scott McIver said that he could provide those but would be away at the time of our next meeting. He said that it could be dealt with in the December meeting. Lee Saperstein suggested that the proposals could be shared digitally in time for a discussion in the November meeting. All agreed to this suggestion and it was proposed that the review go onto the agenda for November. [Action: An agenda item will be in the November Agenda to include review and approval of a monument for Absalom Boston and his wife.]

9. Adjournment.

Adjournment was by acclamation at 3:28 pm.

Next regular meeting: Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 3:00 pm, in the DPW conference room at 188 Madaket Road. An updated Zoom link will be sent with that meeting's agenda.

Cemetery Projects List:

1. Legal status of Newtown Cemetery with recorded survey. Awaiting action.
2. Monument Restoration at Newtown and New North Cemeteries, update.
3. Fencing and brush removal at Historic Coloured and other Town cemeteries.
4. Corner markers and new map for Polpis Cemetery

Respectfully submitted: _____; Date: 10/12/2025
Lee W. Saperstein, Secretary