

## The Commissioners of the Cemeteries

The North and East Burial Grounds Commission
The Town of Bristol, Rhode Island
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OCT 04 2023

MEETING

## **MINUTES**

The meeting of Wednesday, May 24, 2023 was held at The Chapel at North Burial Ground at 1081 Hope Street, Bristol, Rhode Island. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Charles Cavalconte at 6:04 PM. Present were Chairman Charles Cavalconte, Commissioner Susan Church, Commissioner Ed Caruci, Commissioner Kathy Moran, Alternate Josh Cabral, Superintendent Enzly Ramsay, Lily Ramsay and Recording Secretary Carol Gafford. Commissioner Jim Riccio was excused.

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.
- 2. A MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE: for our dead and their families
- 3. **REVIEW & APPROVAL:** Minutes for April 12 meeting were approved with a motion from E. Carusi, seconded by K, Moran and approved by all.
- 4. **REVIEW:** Monthly Census of Cemetery Use and Sales Income. There were 7 burials in April, 61 year to date.
- 5. REVIEW: Monthly Expenses and Invoices for April 2023 were reviewed.
- 6. UPDATE: The Commission discussed the Hope St. Wall Restoration project.
- 7. UPDATE: Gravestone Repair will resume for the season.
- 8. **UPDATE STATUS REVIEW**: Training for CemeteryFind, the new computer program at NBG is May 26<sup>th</sup> for Town Clerk's Office and June 6 for Superintendents Office.
- 9. **REVIEW:** Invoice from the DPW for repaying North and South Roads has been received. The bill is \$58,000.
- 10. **UPDATE** | **STATUS PROJECTS** at <u>THE CREMATION GARDEN</u> (CG): A member of the community has concerns about the repairs of the drain at the CG. Also, there have been complaints about plastic flowers being left at the Columbarium.
- 11. UPDATE | STATUS PROJECTS at THE NORTH BURAL GROUND: Warren Monument carving of Gate 4 completed; Consider the purchase of gate number signs repair of stone wall on Hope St has resumed. Dog signs are here and Enzly will put them up. Trees along north wall pending survey. Status of marked Trees along south wall/Asylum Rd. They will cost \$2500. Resumption of gravestones repair and restoration pending after Memorial Day. There was no feedback on NO MOW MAY. Still waiting on the installation of the NW corner survey marker.
- 12. **UPDATE** | **STATUS REVIEW:** C. Gafford has talked with the Historical Society Director about possible grants for gate restoration. Several ideas were presented. Discussion was renewed on creating a Friend's of the Cemeteries group as a separate non-profit to apply for grants. C. Gafford will look into this further.

13. **UPDATE** | **STATUS REVIEW:** No grass cutting until Memorial Day in order to attract pollinators to both North and East Burial Grounds (Wood St.). There was a letter to the editor of the Bristol Phoenix regarding this. The No Mow May signs are in. This is a work in progress.

## 14. DISCUSSION | REVIEW | BUDGET:

Schedule meeting with the assistant Town Treasurer for fiscal review

 Schedule meeting to review pricing for the Right to Burial and cemetery services for both the disposition of Full Body Burials and Cremains and associated operational

expenses.

 Schedule meeting for the discussion and development of a 1 year/5 year/10 year plan to for future work at NBG topic to include: development of the west side of NBG, road maintenance and width, road naming, the development of an additional formal cremation space, consideration of a formal committal prayer/chapel area, purchase and placement of meditation benches, etc.

Chairman Cavalconte would like the Commission to make a list of priorities. He will plan a day meeting at 3PM.

- 15. **ONGOING:** Reminder to our families that US Flags are available for the graves of veterans at the NBG's Superintendent's Office or from the Bristol Council of Veterans.
- 16. **UPCOMING COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR 2022-23**: The Commission meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:00PM the Chapel at North Burial Ground: 2023: 5/10; 6/14; 7/12; 8/9; 9/13; 10/11; 11/8; 12/13.

## **NEW TOPICS and PROJECTS:**

Subcommittee for Cemetery Events. Friends of the Cemetery, Non-Profit Long Range Planning Special Meetings

Chairman Cavalconte entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Commissioner E. Carusi and seconded by Commissioner S. Church. The Meeting adjourned at 7:14PM. Next meeting June 14, 2023.

~Respectfully Submitted and Approved for Record Wednesday June 14, 2023 Carol Gafford, Recording Secretary