

## **Cemetery Commission Minutes - FINAL**

**Monday April 10th, 2023 @ 9am**

**Abel's Hill Cemetery, South Road**

**Those in attendance:** Judie Flanders, Matt Tobin, Laurisa Rich, Susan Murphy (walking meeting)

**Meeting called to order at 9:02**

**A. Approval of Minutes of 3/9/23 -** deferred to next sit down meeting

**B. Administrator report**

- 1. New applications** - 2 applications have been received. A new resident applied but is not yet eligible.
- 2. Correspondence** - none
- 3. Coverage of Admin position** - Position ads have been run in Island papers.

**C. Superintendent report**

- 1. Cemetery activity** - none reported
- 2. Spring Cleanup** - Other than small branches down, AHC is very tidy. Susan has retrieved Easter and last of Christmas decorations. 2 mowings anticipated before end of FY23 with approximately \$11K in budget. Discussed pine tree removal. A privately owned stockade fence along east border continues to deteriorate. A commissioner will write a note to family asking them to remove or maintain it. Deer fence around tree and parking sign near entrance and will be removed.
- 3. Road maintenance / realignment** - Matt advised on correct mix to stabilize area near shed. We discussed straightening Bayberry Ave to allow for full 11'x11' of fence side graves. Susan will contact Steve J. to discuss project. New plots will be assigned after project complete. We discussed split rail fence, shrub or stone markers along on inside corners of Avenues. No decision as made. Susan will get a quote from Steve Y
- 4. Plot layout** - Susan will flag more plots in Kings Way section before her absence. Judie will send Susan a current map.
- 5. Plans for leave of absence** - Alan Gowell will sub for Susan to dig cremain holes. He is fully insured. Commissioners will attend funerals, as needed.

**D. Old Business**

- 1. Historical Stone repair** - Susan will call Alan Gowell for update and ask that he send credentials to directly to Judie to forward to the CPC.
- 2. Volunteer Day** - Laurisa approached Chilmark School teacher re art/history visit. They will discuss.
- 3. Noman's cemetery update/review of other Chilmark historical cemeteries** - Laurisa plans to attend Historical Commission meeting in the afternoon to discuss Fish & Game response. BOH has reviewed our Other Cemeteries file and has no modern-era family plots registered in Chilmark.
- 4. Review goals and priorities for 2023** - not discussed

**E. Topics not anticipated**

1. Discussed dogwood growing into cedar (or visa versa?) on Haden plot. Matt will contact owner.
2. Discussed beech tree nematode issue. Susan will forward Polly Hill info to Matt.
3. Discussed tree planting in upper Midland section.
4. Agreed that a diagonal oak limb be removed in King's Way.
5. Susan installed the rain barrel. Wood preservative needs to be purchased.
6. Laurisa broached the subject of designating a pet burial area. To be discussed further.

**Next meeting scheduled - Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 9am**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:49 pm**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Laurisa Rich, Secretary**

**Documents Reviewed at meeting:** none