

Warwick Commission on Historical Cemeteries
Commissioners Meeting
January 5, 2016

The meeting of the Warwick Commission on Historical Cemeteries was called to order by Chair, Pegee Malcolm at 6:35 pm. Present were commissioners Mark Brown, Bob Darigan, Maria Pease, Cindy Corkum, Jane Winton, Michelle Place Gleason and Colin Parkhurst and from the Planning Department, Susan Cabeceiras. Guests included Jim Osteguy. Commissioner Dereck Byrne was not excused.

Pegee reported that Francis Miller of ConservArt was at WK #26 along with Peter Mair and Sue on Friday, December 4th at 8:00am. He took 5 stones to stabilize and fix. They will also be making 3 “unknown” markers to mark the location of 3 graves.

Brayton Cemetery fall cleanup was scheduled for Saturday, December 5th from 9-12am. There were about 20 volunteers that came and worked. This year, the wind did not blow all the leaves to the stone wall on the southern end of the cemetery as usual, so there was a lot more raking to be done. Pegee assigned a volunteer after the cleanup to continue the project.

There is some confusion about cemetery flags that are provided by the Veterans Cemetery and who collects them and flags in Warwick. Pegee will contact the people that the Veterans Cemetery has on file as having picked up flags in the past and try to figure out who picks up flags and what they do with them.

Mark presented a motion to approve the November minutes; Maria seconded this motion that was unanimously approved.

The Commissioners discussed the city survey of WK #84 on Plymouth Avenue. Sue told the Commissioners that she had spoken with City Solicitor Peter Ruggiero about this cemetery who suggested the Commission send a letter to the property owners citing the statutes that pertain to the parking and work constructed within 25 feet of the cemetery. Sue drafted the letter and sent it to the Commissioners to review. Pegee raised the question of cemetery ownership. She thought Amtrak owned the cemetery, Sue had checked the Assessors database and it does not list ownership. Mark will research the ownership and the Commissioners agreed to table this matter until the cemetery ownership can be determined.

Pegee reported that Alan Clarke of the State Historical Cemetery Commission, found two cemeteries in Potowomut while doing some research. Maria may know the family that used to own the property one of the cemeteries is located on. Sue will send her Alan’s email and she will contact the family and

see what she can find out.

Sue received an invoice from Serve Rhode Island to renew the Commissions membership. The invoice is for \$100. This is the organization that refers most of our volunteers to us. Mark presented a motion to use the Commissions funding to pay for invoice. Jane seconded the motion that was unanimously approved.

Sue explained that the Commission has \$400 in its budget, minus the \$100 for Serve RI. Several tools and materials were discussed that the Commission could purchase with this money. Michelle presented a motion to spend the remaining \$300 to purchase a gas leaf blower, rakes, bags, gloves, epoxy, books etc, as needed. Cindy seconded this motion that was unanimously approved.

Colin may be missing one meeting in the near future while taking his present course load at New England Tech.

A motion to adjourn was made by Maria, seconded by Colin and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Cabeceiras