

Warwick Commission on Historical Cemeteries
Commissioners Meeting
June 7, 2016

The meeting of the Warwick Commission on Historical Cemeteries was called to order by Chair, Pegée Malcolm at 6:35 pm. Present were commissioners Mark Brown, Maria Pease, Cindy Corkum, Jane Winton, Bob Darigan, and Colin Parkhurst. Also present were Jackie Boucher, Bob Chorney, Jim Osteguy, Mike Lannigan and Lisa DeMay and from the Planning Department, Susan Cabeceiras. Michelle Place was excused. Dereck Byrne was not excused.

Ms. Boucher was invited to attend to discuss activities in WK 84, adjacent to property she and her husband own. The Commissioners gave a copy of the Survey completed by the City Surveyor and Ms. Boucher explained that they have owned the adjacent property for 28 years were told there was an easement of some kind on the adjacent (Cemetery) property. When they purchased the property, the cemetery was overgrown and they had maintained the cemetery. She told the Commissioners that her tenants had been harassed by Cemetery Commissioners who had left notes on their cars. She said she had told tenants to park in the street not on the cemetery. She suggested the cemetery sign be moved closer to the street and that boulders be placed along the street so that cars cannot park on the cemetery. The Commissioners agreed that this might be a good solution and Sue was asked to contact the DPW to see if this can be done.

A motion to approve the minutes from the May 3rd meeting was made by Maria, seconded by Jane and unanimously approved.

There were 30+ student veterans that worked on WK# 165 for three hours on June 2. They filled one huge dumpster twice, which was provided and emptied by Kenny Picozzi of DPW.

Several Commissioners had been working in WK# 74 on Houston St. They have uncovered headstones for Benjamin Budlong and Col Henry Whitman, a Revolutionary War Veteran.

Mike Lannigan asked the commission to authorize the creation of a new cemetery stone to replace the irreparable stone for Philetus H. Arnold, who is buried in WK #34 Brayton Cemetery. Colin presented a motion to approve this which was seconded by Maria and unanimously approved.

The Commissioners then discussed WK#43 behind the Showcase Cinema on Division Road. Colin found two complete headstones for two people buried. Jane presented a motion to install the second headstone behind the stone located over the body, back to back. Mark seconded the motion that was unanimously approved.

Pegée invited everyone to her house on September 6 for a cookout/meeting.

Jane presented a motion to not meet in July, unless something major comes up that needs the attention of the Commission. Mark seconded this motion that was unanimously approved.

Pegée reported that Peter Mair told her they were behind schedule cleaning the headstones at WK #26 and that

they are planning to return the stones but do not yet have a date.

Six “unknown” plaques have been ordered by Bob C. to put on the grave sites identified at WK#52.

Colin reported that WK #112 Nancy Karen Drive had a smaller crew working and the cemetery still needs additional work. He has another cleanup scheduled for June 11th. He also told the Commissioners that WK #44 has two cemeteries signs, and that WK #7 has been cut by DPW with a riding lawnmower. There are stones lying down that could be damaged by the mower. He also reported that WK #132 now has a tomato garden installed on cemetery property, along the street. The Commissioners discussed how to handle the tomato garden and it was decided that Colin will talk to the property owners and tell them they do not have to remove the garden this season but must remove it after tomato season.

Maria reported there is one stone down at WK #35 and half a tree is down on WK #36. At WK #38 a neighbor might be encroaching on the cemetery. Maria will check into this matter.

A motion to adjourn was made by Colin, seconded by Cindy and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Cabeceiras