

Truro Cemetery Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2024
Truro Town Hall

Present: Bob Masson, *Cemetery Commission*
Holly Ballard-Gardner, *Cemetery Commission*
John Dundas, *Select Board*

Absent Frank Grande, *Cemetery Commission*



Called to order at: 8:58 am

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 20, 2024 meeting were reviewed (no meeting in April). Mr. Masson motioned to accept, Ms. Gardner seconded, all in favor. Minutes signed and passed into the record.

Activity Report

Mr. Masson reported one burial since the last meeting and three lot sales. There are two pending burials so will not enter the record yet. Ms. Gardner motion to approve, Mr. Masson seconded, all in favor.

Public Comment

In absentia, comment from Jonathan Sperber (received via email as Mr. Sperber was unable to attend the meeting). Mr. Sperber owns a plot in the natural burial section of Old North Cemetery. "I respectfully request that the Commission take advantage of the present Spring season to (1) plant native grasses in the natural burial area and surrounding area, (2) plant a row of cherry trees along the metal fence that matches the other rows of cherry trees in the cemetery, (3) remove the nearby pile of dirt and debris, and (4) remove excess sand from any graves at this time and in the future, while also providing compost, soil and native grass seed above the sand. I appreciate all of the Commission's efforts in having established the natural burial area. Landscaping the area at this time will foster the respect that the area deserves."

Mr. Sperber's request was discussed. The excess sand/soil is due to be removed this week. The landscaper will be asked to remove the debris pile. The Commission agrees with his assessment of the area but has no budget at the moment for the improvements. Installation of new landscaping at Old North is complicated by the lack of water. It was agreed that the Commission will seek funding sources for planting of cherry trees.

Old Business

Mr. Masson motioned that the Commission gratefully accept the CPC grant approved at the recent town meeting. The grant will cover the cost of repairing broken headstones in the four nationally-registered historic cemeteries. Ms. Gardner will make a list of the stones to be repaired. Mr. Fougere has provided a proposal and is scheduled to begin work in mid-June. Mr. Masson will unlock the Old North Mausoleum where broken stones are stored.

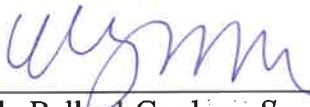
The cornerbounds for the Fein-Zachary lot at Old North that were installed in the wrong place several years ago have been moved. The lot was re-surveyed and now the cornerbounds are in the correct location. The plot owners have been notified.

For the Sperber lot at Old North, payment for cornerbounds was received and they have been ordered for installation.

John Dundas thanks the Commission for welcoming him during his tenure as Select Board liason (his term ends this month). He announced that Mr. Masson's nomination for the Fred Todd Award was worthy and although he was the runner up, he encourages Ms. Gardner to nominate Mr. Masson again next year stating that like Fred Todd, Mr. Masson is a hard worker with a long tenure (27 years on the Commission).

Ms. Gardner motioned for adjournment at 9:20am. Seconded by Mr. Masson. Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Holly Ballard-Gardner, *Secretary*



Bob Masson, *Treasurer*