



**Cemeteries Advisory
Committee
Minutes
May 9, 2018
Veteran's Services Building
12 Emerson Ave. Gloucester
5:30-7**

Present: Sandy Barry, Beverly McKean, Patti Amaral, Chris Maney, Carol Kelly. Guests: Kathy Hurlburt, Joseph Gauthier

Meeting convened at 5:30.

1. April 10, 2018 minutes approved and accepted. Sandy will post them.
2. 2017 report to the Mayor approved and accepted.
3. Sandy will take on the job of writing the quarterly CPA grant report.
4. Very excited and delighted to look forward to the NPS/Chris P. Robinson workshop in August. The 3rd and 4th are almost certainly the dates. Although the working group is interested in other cemeteries than FPBG and Clark (which we worked in with them last year), those are really our two sites of greatest need plus they provide excellent logistical support with easy access to parking, bathroom facilities etc. We will reexamine the site after the graves which the Fannin's are going to be working on have been identified.
5. CAC funds. Since the Auditor's office has identified an "empty" line item (which in the past did hold cemetery funds) we will transfer all funds available to the city. Carol and Beverly will follow up on this with Barry Pett et al. This will give us better management capabilities.
6. Beverly and Carol will visit the DPW to coordinate and ask a couple of questions: What do the line items in the City budget mean to the CAC as to paying for supplies/workshops/etc.? What is the schedule for cemetery maintenance (with a particular question re: Bayview which we know is problematic because mowers can't be used)? What are the plans for addressing the Japanese Knotweed in Clark?
7. Sandy will send to Carol her information about Walter McGrath. We very much want to see him receive a city award for his years of careful tending of the Cove Cemetery.
8. Beverly, Chris and Carol will follow up on the National Register status of Beechbrook.
9. Christine will continue to work on the 1918 Gloucester Influenza (Spanish Lady comes to Gloucester?) project.
10. Carol will visit City Hall to check on status of reimbursement to Sandy for sand and gravel.
11. The Committee reviewed the form for cemetery checklist and decided it sufficed for whole cemetery status, as opposed to the kind of inventory necessary to enter data in Find-a-Grave or similar sites. We want to add to the inventory list whether or not the cemeteries are signed. We do want to know what it means on some of the signs "Adopted by" can we get funds from the DPW to maintain the cemetery. For example see Summer St sign and Langsford sign.

12. Joseph O. Gauthier, Massachusetts Sons of the American Revolution, Col. Henry Knox Color Guard, Awards and Medals Chairman, Old Essex Chapter presented us with his outline of how the SAR might be involved in identifying and honoring the Revolutionary War graves in Gloucester. Presently the SAR could pay for and place a small number of markers in several cemeteries (the majority are in FPBG but there are others elsewhere). These are quite attractive and the SAR has had the experience of having them stolen shortly after placement. It would be a concern for us as well. We discussed an alternative, as had been suggested in a conversation between Mr. Gauthier and David Rhineland, a plaque that would list all the names. We were very interested in supporting one or the other of the efforts. While at the DPW Carol and Beverly can check to see if there are any restrictions to placing markers in, for example, FPBG. We will follow up, also attempt to find out about how much a plaque would cost. We will stay in contact with Mr. Gauthier and continue to pursue this.

Meeting adjourned at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Kelly