



City of Gloucester
Cemeteries Advisory Committee
Meeting
January 8, 2019
Veteran's Building
Emerson Ave.
5:30pm-6:45pm

2019 MAY 29 AM 10:20
CITY CLERK
GLOUCESTER, MA

Committee Members Present: Sandy Barry, Bev McKean, Patti Amaral, Chris Maney

Guests: Ron Breault, Melissa Hobbs, Russell Hobbs

1. December 2018 minutes were accepted. Copy to be sent to absent committee member.
2. Marking First Parish Burial Ground (FPBG) Veterans graves (Revolutionary and Civil War) with a cellphone GPS system proved not to be accurate (off as much as 54 feet in one case) when compared to a Garmin Montana, which is accurate to within 40 inches. In Spring 2019, the GPS location for the Veterans graves will be determined using a Garmin Montana (borrowed from John Maney).
3. Ann and Bruce Campbell's original FPBG Restoration Project (1987-2002) documents and photos are in Gloucester's Archives Department, which is located in the town hall. Chris Maney is compiling an inventory of the Campbell's work as well as Edith Sparling's original cemetery papers involving restoration projects, which she gave to the Gloucester Archives Department.
4. Sandy Barry has not received a response from Jaimie Corliss, when she asked for an extension of the 2018 CPA grant. Due to unfavorable weather, the Fannin-Lehner Preservation Consultants were not able to finish their work at FPBG. Sandy will write/call Jaimie to follow-up on the request for an extension.
5. Through the generosity of donors to *Wreaths Across America*, twenty Christmas wreaths were placed on Veterans graves in FPBG and Clark's Cemetery.

6. Carol Kelly has been acquiring and integrating name/dod/ etc. information into an Access database of all the official City-owned cemeteries. Chris Maney will review the Access database for repetitive entries as well as look for any omissions of names with respect to the Dolliver Index compiled by Edith Sparling. This Spring the Access database of the City-owned cemeteries will be submitted to the City IT/James Pope and it will then be transferred to the City-owned database format, QuickBase. It can then be posted on the City-owned website with editing privileges for the Cemetery Advisory Committee.

7. Carol Kelly has completed the formatting of Volume I of the 2018 Dolliver Transcription Project. With permission from the Gloucester Archives Department, she took Volume I of Dolliver's original work and scanned it at the Cape Ann Museum. In March Carol will interleave the transcribed pages of Volume I with the scanned version of Dolliver's work. The formatting of the transcribed Volumes II and III will start sometime in March. *It was agreed that an alphabetized index by name and associated page number should be included in the 2018 Dolliver Transcription Project.*
<https://sites.google.com/view/volunteer-local-history/home> for more information

8. New Business
 - a. Russell Hobbs brought up the subject of missing and broken **Revolutionary and Civil War** Veterans gravestones in FPBG. Russell and Sandy Barry will work together to compile a list with photos of Veterans gravestones that are missing, badly broken, and/or in need of repair. Once that list is compiled, Chris Maney will ask Lucia Amero of the Cape Ann Veterans Services what Federal assistance is available for repairing **Revolutionary and Civil War** Veterans gravestones in FPBG.
 - b. Russell Hobbs also mentioned the need to repair several above-ground tombs and that some have broken horizontal brownstones slabs.
 - c. Russell also offered the idea of obtaining funds **to repair and secure** the below-ground tomb that was used historically for storage. This repaired tomb could be used again for storage of original fragmented and broken gravestones that would be replaced with new gravestones. Melissa Hobbs mentioned that the repair of the below-ground tomb was a priority so that storage is available for broken historic gravestones and fragments.
 - d. Russell mentioned that at-large City Council Jaime O'Hara offered to assist the city cemetery committee in securing funds.
 - e. In April 2019 Chris Maney will contact Lucia Amero to ask how Henry Jacques and his fellow boy scouts can help with the placement of flags on Veterans graves in FPBG on Memorial Day. Chris will also ask Lucia if the Federal government provides individual flag holders for the Veterans graves.

Among the attending participants, there was interest in researching and developing Gloucester perspectives from the point of view of historical figures buried in FPBG. The research on specific individuals will be shared at the February monthly city cemetery meeting.

Israel Trask and Eli Forbes: Russell Hobbs

Isabel Babson: Melissa Hobbs

Rachel Baker: Bev McKean

Capt. Miles Barnes: Sandy Barry

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

Next monthly meeting starts at 5:30pm on Tuesday, **February 12, 2019**, Veteran's Building, Emerson Ave. Gloucester, MA