

Truro Cemetery Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2023
Truro Town Hall

RCUD 2023 APR 19 4:20
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
TOWN OF TRURO

Present: Bob Masson, *Cemetery Commission (Treasurer & Recordkeeping)*
Holly Ballard-Gardner, *Cemetery Commission (Chairwoman & Secretary)*
Frank Grande, *Cemetery Commission*
Jonathan Sperber, *Town resident*

Called to order at: 8:59 am

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 18, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Masson motioned to accept them; Mr. Grande seconded. All in favor. The prior meeting's minutes were accepted and placed into the record. (One copy to Cemetery Commission file, one to Noelle Scoullar.)

Activity Report

Mr. Masson presented Activity Report for January and February. Burials so far this year include Zukas and Roza. Two plots have been sold at New South Cemetery. Ms. Gardner motioned to accept the Activity Report. Mr. Grande seconded. All in favor, accepted, placed in the record.

Public Comment

Mr. Sperber said he had no comment.

Old Business

The CPC grant request made by the Commission was approved and goes to Town Meeting for ratification.

The paperwork was gathered for the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund grants for fence repair and preservation and restoration of historic stones. A matching grant is required and will require more research.

New Business

Ms. Gardner read a proposed amendment to the Commissions rules regarding green burials as follows:

- A. Green burial is allowed in a designated area of the Old North Cemetery, marked with a fence and sign.
- B. Green burial will be allowed in the New South Cemetery Expansion Section, when it is developed.
- C. In the designated green burial areas:
 - a. No burial vault is required.
 - b. The deceased should not be embalmed.
 - c. A burial container is not required, but if used, should be biodegradable and free of toxic materials.
 - d. Burial depth is be 4 feet to the bottom of the container or shroud.



- e. Graves must be mounded to allow for return to natural state.
- f. All decorations must be of natural elements or biodegradable materials.
- g. Grave markers must be a flat natural or quarried stone, no larger than 2 ft. x 1 ft. set directly without foundation.

Ms. Gardner made a motion to accept the amendment. Mr. Grande seconded. Discussion was invited. Mr. Sperber said he was very much in favor. The definition of a green burial was described. It was noted that Massachusetts law allows for green burials, that neighboring towns permit green burials, there had been significant request, and there was no further implications for including them in existing cemeteries. A vote was called. All in favor. The Truro Cemetery Commission Rules & Regulations were amended as of March 15, 2023 to permit green burials as described.

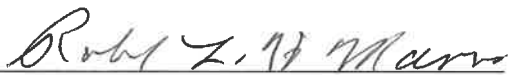
Adjournment

Ms. Gardner motioned for adjournment at 9:07am noting the next meeting is to be April 19, 2023. Mr. Masson seconded. Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Holly Ballard-Gardner, *Secretary*



Bob Masson, *Treasurer*

