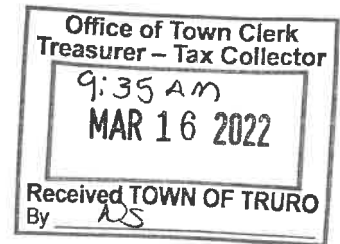


Truro Cemetery Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2022
Truro Town Hall

Present: Bob Masson, *Cemetery Commission*
Holly Ballard-Gardner, *Cemetery Commission*
Liz Haskell, *Cemetery Commission*



Called to order at: 8:58am

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 19, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Mrs. Haskell motioned to accept. Ms. Ballard-Gardner seconded. All in favor. The January 19 minutes were accepted and placed into the record. (One copy to Cemetery Commission file, one to Noelle Scoullar.)

Activity Report

Mr. Masson presented the activity report indicating there was little to report. Frank burial was to have occurred in Pine Grove following a postponement due to the blizzard. We sold one lot in New South Cemetery. Mr. Masson reported that Liz Beyus upgrades maps and does research for the Commission on a volunteer basis. She sent the 1927 death certificate for a nine-year-old boy that indicated he was buried in Truro. We have no record of him being buried. But his parents purchased a plot the same year at Sacred Heart Cemetery. Due to this preponderance of evidence, we entered into the record that he is buried in his parents' plot at Sacred Heart. Mrs. Haskell motioned to accept the January Activity Report. Mr. Masson seconded. All in favor, passed. The report was placed into the record.

Statistics Sheet

Mr. Masson presented the Statistics Sheet, updated January 22, 2022. He noted that between 1713 and 1882, 42% of the buried had died by age 30. Mr. Masson motioned to accept the Statistics Sheet. Mrs. Haskell seconded. All in favor.

Financial Report

Mr. Masson presented the Financial Report, noting it contains a lot of information for members to review outside the meeting. He pointed out that the main expense of the Commission is grass cutting and the extent of the yearly expense is dependent upon the weather. Typically, the Commission mows five times per year. One year it was only twice and in lieu of paying the landscape contractor for mowing, they cleaned stones. Mrs. Haskell motioned to accept the Financial Report. Ms. Ballard-Gardner seconded. All in favor.

Old Business

As agreed last month, the Commission made a written request to DPW and the Town Manager advise the Commission of the official policy for maintenance of the town roads in and to cemeteries. When the Commission received no response, Mrs. Ballard-Gardner inquired again

and was forwarded DPW's email sent to the Town Manager by way of response. See ATTACHMENT

New Business

Roles

Mr. Masson made an announcement. Upon great consideration, after serving in a leadership role on the Commission for 25 years and in anticipation of his 87th birthday coming in May, he has decided to retire as Chair of the Commission. He proposed that he continue on the Commission in the role of Treasurer and Record Keeper, and proposed Mrs. Ballard-Gardner to the position of Chair (while maintaining the role of Secretary as well). Mr. Masson nominated Mrs. Ballard-Gardner as Madame Chairwoman of the Commission effectively immediately. Mrs. Haskell seconded. All in favor. Mrs. Ballard-Gardner expressed great appreciation to Mr. Masson for his long dedication to the Commission, pointing out that his work to develop financial record keeping and to systematize the burial records in a way they are publicly available on the Town website has been an invaluable service to the community and to the preservation of Truro's history. Mrs. Ballard-Gardner also thanked Mr. Masson for his trust in her and all the ways in which he has shared his knowledge in order that the work of the Commission will continue uninterrupted, with no loss of momentum.

Mrs. Haskell announced that she no longer wishes to be a member of the Commission and will not seek re-election when her term expires this summer. Mrs. Haskell notes she has given a lot to the Commission and at 94 is "getting old." Mr. Masson and Mrs. Ballard-Gardner thanked Mrs. Haskell for her long service and agreed her last meeting would be on March 16, 2022 after which time the Commission would extend open invitations to interested parties to run for the position.

Budget


At the Feb 7 Budget Task Force meeting, the Commissions' request for \$30,000 for the upcoming budget year was approved.

Adjournment


Ms. Ballard-Gardner moved for adjournment at 9:15 am. Mr. Masson seconded, all in favor. Adjourned at 9:15.

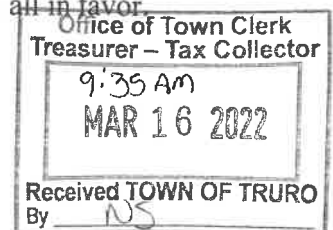
Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 9:00 am, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,


Holly Ballard-Gardner, *Secretary*


Robert Masson, *Treasurer*


Elizabeth Haskell, *Historian*



ATTACHMENT

DPW's response to the Commission's request for the Town's policy on maintaining the Cemetery's dirt roads (which are Town roads).

From: Jarrod Cabral

Sent: February 15, 2022 11:09 AM

To: Holly Gardner

Subject: RE: Memo from Truro Cemetery Commission to DPW

Hello, for highly traveled private dirt roads and Town owned roads we grade them quarterly below is the email I sent to Darrin regarding your letter. For this time of year, we will be out to grade the roads again after we have a day or two of higher temperatures, and the cemeteries will be checked then as well. The only policy we have is more about private road repair and snow removal. Email me any questions you may have – Thanks – Jarrod

From: Jarrod Cabral

Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 9:04 AM

To: Darrin Tangeman

Subject: RE: Memo from Truro Cemetery Commission to DPW

Good morning, as part of disaster preparedness we started to maintain the highly traveled dirt roads on a quarterly basis in FY17. We will respond to any 911 calls, and regrade the roads after any significant weather event, and sometimes this includes tree removal. There is no written policy the idea came up a few times at our disaster preparedness meetings when staff was reviewing our disaster preparedness plans.

In FY18 we partnered with the National seashore to cut back the sides of the dirt roads to allow for the passage of emergency vehicles to the max extent possible. In the springtime our department makes one pass through the dirt roads that can be accessed with our brush mower to cut back vegetation.

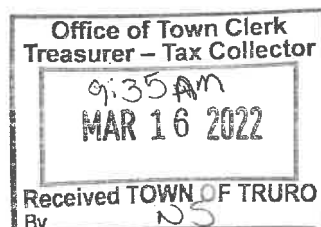
We check and remove trash from all the cemetery locations as well as grade Cemetery Road, no problems have come up until now. Moving forward we will pay closer attention to the Cemetery locations. Below is a list of dirt roads we maintain.

Private or Proprietary - Dyer Hollow, Truro segment of Black Pond Road, Old Kings Highway, Cliff Road, Fox Bottom Road, Slough Pond Road.

Town owned – End of Town Hall Road, Cemetery Road, Town owned portion of Tom's Hill Road. Old County Lane is a paved private Road that accesses Town owned New South Cemetery, we do not maintain Old County Lane. We do maintain the driveway inside of New South Cemetery, but it is not a road.

Mrs. Garner (sic) and I played phone tag a little bit this month, the only email I received from her was last night's email. I checked my email dating back to 2020, but nothing from Holly she usually calls. Bob will usually stop in if he has questions I don't think I have seen him since the spring. My last email from Bob was July of 2020 to check on potholes on Cemetery Road, and an earlier email following up on a conversation he had with me about filling in for him if he was not able to fulfill his responsibilities. Nothing came of that

I checked both locations again today no issues of note, but they are dirt roads potholes will reappear frequently Thanks – Jarrod



A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to Jarrod Cabral.