

**Minutes of 1/19/22 Cemetery Commission**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Remote Access Meeting with Zoom**  
**(Under Emergency Order for Pandemic)**  
**Approved Meeting of 2/16/22**

Members present: Walter Tibbetts (WT), Susan Millinger (SM), Dina Stander (DS). Meeting called to order at 6:04

1. Minutes of the December 15 meeting. Motion to accept was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.
2. DS reports on follow up on the tasks volunteered for in December meeting.
  - a. DS has contacted Gail Fleischaker, member of the Town website committee, and given her the documents the Commission has recently approved for addition to the website.
  - b. DS has contacted the Jewish Community of Amherst (JCA) about their cemetery. Ann Wetherbee is the coordinator for their burial committee; she now knows who to contact in Shutesbury about the Jewish cemetery, while our Cemetery Commission knows who to contact for JCA's cemetery. DS assured her that she personally visits the cemetery regularly to be sure it continues in good condition. She is alert for possible vandalism.
3. Further Discussion of Guidelines for Family-Directed Funerals. This document continues in process. WT mentions the site <https://www.greenburialma.org> which he recommends. It contains a section on Massachusetts Rules and Regulations. One issue about which we have questions is the regulations, if any, about vaults.  
*Note: At this time, WT had to leave this meeting for an emergency call; the meeting continued with a quorum ( 2 of 3 members).*
4. Determination of a person's eligibility to purchase a lot. It was tentatively decided that people were eligible to purchase a lot who resided, or had resided in town, or if they were descended from people who had been residents.  
The Commission needs to publicize the new regulations governing who is eligible to purchase a cemetery lot; these will be published in a future issue of the Town newsletter, *Our Town*.
5. Equipment purchases. WT is in charge of equipment purchases, so his presence is needed to discuss this item. It is tabled to a future meeting.
6. Volunteer Spring clean-up day. WT is needed to decide on the best day. It was agreed we need to advertise in Town Announce and Nextdoor.
7. Headstone cleaning and repair workshop. DS will contact TaMara Conde of Historic Gravestone Restoration to see what her availability is for a workshop, and to talk with her with her about a public presentation before that to attract interest in the workshop. It was agreed that the presentation should be pretty close to the workshop. It was also agreed that

priority should be given to Shutesbury residents. Conde should be asked if she has a mailing list she would like to have used for both presentation and workshop. Date, materials needed, and publicity will require attention. Registration will be necessary for the workshop to keep the size limited. What size would Conde recommend?

8. Unanticipated Items.

- a. DS has written a blurb for *Our Town* on Green Burials in Shutesbury. She will submit it after WT and SM have approved it.
  - b. DS recommends we propose for the Annual Report the before and after cleaning pictures of the tombstones of Charles Bacon and his wife Clara Randall. Leslie Bracebridge needs to be asked if she knows of anyone in their families to be contacted for permission to use the photographs.
9. Date for next meeting: Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 6 p.m., if acceptable to WT.
10. Adjournment at 6:49 p.m. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

Submitted by

*Susan Millinger*

Cemetery Commission secretary

