

## **Old Burying Ground Commission**

### **Meeting minutes from September 10, 2019 Legion Hall Building**

#### **Meeting called to order 5:05 PM**

Commission Members in attendance: Donald Black, Eleanor Gavazzi, Deborah Beal Normandin

1. Don Black made the motion to amend the agenda, Deb Normandin seconded the motion. Motion carried. Agenda amended.
2. Don Black made the motion to nominate Eleanor Gavazzi as Chairperson of the Old Burying Ground Commission. Deb Normandin seconded. Motion carried.
3. Don Black made the motion to nominate Amanda Gavazzi as Recording Secretary of the Old Burying Ground Commission Deb Normandin seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. Agenda read. Determined future meeting schedule to be the first Tuesday of every month unless otherwise specified at 5:00 P.M.

#### **Under Old Business**

5. Discussed **Long term Goals and Objectives**
  - a. Protection of headstones
  - b. Bronze historic plaques- future installations
  - c. Education of the public as to the historic importance of the Old Burying Ground
6. Discussed **Short Term Goals and Objectives**
  - a. Joshua Bentley's Monument- \$3000.00 in a separate town account currently
  - b. Deborah Ames stone repair

#### **Under New Business**

1. Signs for Grotonfest- Don Black said he would ask the Park Commission to provide two large signs one for inside each gate of the Old Burying Ground. Eleanor Gavazzi said she would put the smaller signs (listing expected behavior) throughout the Old Burying Ground the Friday evening before Grotonfest.
2. Don Black said he would contact Dominique Larkin (Grotonfest organizer) to discuss the expected behavior during Grotonfest in regards to the proximity of the Old Burying Ground. Specifically noting nothing is to be placed on the wall because there are tombs below, behind and near the wall.
3. Discussed no night time photography allowed in the Old Burying Ground without prior consent. Hours are clearly posted on each of the two gates.
4. Don Black suggested having the expected rules of behavior within the Old Burying Ground posted on the Town website.
5. Wreaths Across America Program further discussion next meeting
6. The tree that has fallen across the wall from an abutting property will be removed before Grotonfest.
7. Don, Deb, and Eleanor walked through Old Burying Ground to see the tree and headstones in need of attention.
8. Don Black would like the American flag flow within the Old Burying Ground at all times. He will contact Sue Roberts about the flagpole which is the property of the Groton Minutemen.
9. Next meeting set for October 1, 2019 5:00 P.M. Meeting Adjourned 6:19 P.M.

