



MINUTES OF THE MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Thursday December 2, 2021 4:00 p.m.
Meeting held in person at City Hall in Conference Room A
1 Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth NH

Members Present (in-person): Co-chairs Susan Sterry and Diedre Forte, Sherry H. Brandsema, Sue Polidura, Michael Griffin, Don Margeson, Eva Boice, Kerry Rubinstein, and Chris Benecick.

Members Present (by Zoom): Karen Bouffard and Councilor Esther Kennedy (joined at 4:20 PM).

Staff Present: Suzanne M. Woodland, Acting Deputy City Manager/Deputy City Attorney (in-person)

- I. Call to Order at 4:00 p.m.
- II. Roll Call of the Members as noted above.
- III. Motion by Don Margeson, seconded by Sue Polidura to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 4, 2021. Approved unanimously.
- IV. Review of research efforts by various Committee Members.
 - A. Discussion of potentially adding historic markers. Suzanne Woodland to check on whether any other staff have experience with historical markers.
 - B. Discussion of potential climate impacts on several of the City's cemeteries including North Cemetery and Point of Graves. Climate impacts include:
 - (1) Storm surge
 - (2) Sea level rise
 - (3) Extreme precipitationQuestions were asked about how to protect against storm surge and development along North Mill Pond. Questions were asked about Strawberry Banke/Prescott Park area, including Pointe of Graves. Suzanne Woodland offered to ask Peter Britz and/or Peter Rice to attend next meeting if available to discuss City's preliminary efforts to deal with Climate Change.
 - C. Committee reviewed the attached spreadsheet describing categories of work items and who is responsible for them.

D. Discussion of tying in the Cemetery Committee's work with 400th Anniversary events.

E. Discussion of the L-CHIP and Moose Plate Grants programs.

V. Next Meeting and Adjournment

January 6, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. was identified as the potential next meeting date.

Motion made by Sue Polidura to adjourn, seconded by Sherry H. Brandsema, all in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Suzanne Woodland, Deputy City Manager / Deputy City Attorney
Approved at April 7, 2022 meeting