

**MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday January 6, 2022 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 Deirdre Forte, Sherry H. Brandsema, Sue Polidura, Michael Griffin, Kerry Rubinstein

Members Present (by Zoom): Eva Boice, Don Margeson and David Falck

Staff Present: Suzanne M. Woodland, Acting Deputy City Manager/Deputy City Attorney (in-person and Peter Britz, Interim Planning Director

I. Call to order at 4:05 p.m.

II. Roll Call of the Members as noted above.

III. There were only six members present in-person and seven in-person are necessary for a quorum. As such, the meeting continued without motions to vote and voting.

IV. Peter Britz, Interim Planning Director was present to update the committee on current state of climate change impacts and the city's efforts to better understand these issues.

A. Sue Polidura asked why an air quality monitoring sensor was placed in the entrance to North Cemetery. This is one of three sensors placed in the city by Department of Environmental Services and will stay until the end of February. Real-time data from these monitors is being reported online at: <https://map.purpleair.com>.

B. Peter Britz covered highlights of a Coastal Resilience Initiative study completed in April 2013.

1. The full report can be found at this link <https://files.cityofportsmouth.com/files/cri/CRI-Report.pdf>.

2. Portsmouth's Master Plan presents a set of goals, objectives and strategies that together describe a direction for the City over the next ten years.

3. Peter shared with the committee the impacts the team saw for Point of Graves and North Cemeteries.

V. Suzanne M Woodland updated the committee on the effort to create a permanent historic cemetery committee.

A. A permanent historic cemetery committee was approved in December with no members being appointed. So that we could meet in early January, incoming Mayor Deaglan McEachern established a 2022 Blue Ribbon Cemetery Committee. Members that wish to be appointed to the permanent historic cemetery committee should complete an appointment application that can be found at this link <https://files.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/BoardsandCommissionrenewalapplication.pdf>. The members will complete this application the week before the January 24th meeting where appointments will be approved by the City Council.

VI. Next meeting and adjournment

A. A member brought to the committee's attention that he has a conflict Thursday's at 4:00 p.m.. The committee discussed moving our regular monthly meeting to another day of the week. Thursday's seemed to work best for everyone.

B. Next meeting is scheduled for February 3rd 4:00 p.m. in person at City Hall. A Zoom link will be sent out for those members that could not be in attendance.

Draft minutes prepared by Dee Dee Forte