

Minutes of Meeting November 14th 2018

Location: RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission at 150 Benefit St, Providence

In attendance: Pegée Malcolm, Charlotte Taylor, Judy Fardig, Alex La Force, David Bell, Russell DiNoto, Bob Butler, Dory Wagner, Edna Kent, and Caroline Wells

Excused absences: Michael Laferriere, Alan Clarke, Walter Slocomb, Betty Mencucci, Jennifer Galpern, Lew Keen, and Jim Bessel

Also in attendance: Bill Brown

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm by Pegée Malcolm, chair

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Public Forum

Bill Brown gave an update on a previously reported situation in Glocester where a cemetery stonewall had been illegally dismantled to accommodate a driveway. Since then, the driveway is in the process of being relocated and the wall is being rebuilt.

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Introduction of September 19, 2018 Draft Meeting Minutes

It was noted that Edna had not received the minutes. Judy made a motion to accept the minutes and Bob seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

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Office of Constituent Affairs

Pegée reviewed Carol Anne Costa's visit to the September RIACHC meeting. There is some discussion about having a liaison from the state available to address some cemetery issues that require further assistance. Carol Anne hopes to have someone from the state attend an upcoming RIACHC meeting to gain a better understanding of some of the issues.

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Providence County Vacancy

Michael will resign from the Commission but will continue to maintain the website and Facebook page. He made a recommendation for his replacement. Edna asked about getting an additional commissioner for Lincoln and Providence areas.

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State Farm Cemeteries

Pegée continues to work on gathering information and financial support for kiosks for the state farm cemeteries. The kiosks will provide the names of those who were buried in unnamed graves.

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Cemetery Database

Pegée reported that John Sterling will accept notifications regarding any numbering differences between the recent Richmond cemetery book and the state website's database. Later, John will add the information to the database to avoid any confusion.

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Historical Cemetery Restoration/Awareness Day

Cemetery Awareness Day will fall on Saturday April 13 this year. Anyone with planned clean-up events can let Pegée know. Michael will also post event announcements on the website.

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Upcoming Meetings 2019

The following dates were announced: April 17, June 19, September 18, and November 20. There was a suggestion made to host a meeting on Block Island.

Additional Member Comments – Other Updates have been submitted to Peggie via email

David reported that there are cemeteries on Tiverton properties being considered for solar farms.

Judy reported that in Warren some people are interested in adopting cemeteries. One of the interested persons will paint a wrought iron fence in the spring.

Peggie responded to people interested in adopting a cemetery in West Warwick. On the adoption paperwork Peggie specified that they would be “adopting” the cemetery only, not receiving ownership, and were limited to maintaining the cemetery. Dory asked about the definition of “cemetery adoption”.

Russell noted seeing that a large limb had fallen in a previously cleaned cemetery and asked what was acceptable to do with the wood.

Peggie was contacted by Motif Magazine and asked about historical cemeteries. She was pleased with the article which also noted that volunteers are needed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm on a motion made by Bob and seconded by Charlotte.

The next meeting will be April 17, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted by Maureen Buffi, Secretary