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Cemetery Commission
Minutes
April 28, 2015
Selectman's Meeting Room

Present; Susan Brown, Chairman, Andrew Kelly,, Elizabeth Villard. Jen Morgan, Superintendent, absent

Note: This was a difficult meeting as Ms. Morgan was absent. She had texted both Andrew Kelly and Jane Hathaway, Personnel representative that she might not make the meeting. The Commission was informed that "texting" is not an acceptable was for an employee to miss a meeting. We were joined at intervals by both Marily Wortman, Personnel, and Pam Dolby, Town Administrator, as the Commission tried to deal with the implications of her absence.

At the same time, the Commission attempted to work through as much as possible of their agenda

Old Business

1) The update on Season employees was postponed until Jen Morgan, Superintendent was present

2) Potter & Slater plots in Chappaquiddick Cemetery

It was agreed that the Hope Slater's request to transfer her plots in the Chappaquiddick cemetery to her sister, Edo Potter, and two of her children be allowed. She originally made this request in November, 2010, but no formal transfer was made at that time. The standard policy of having her returned the plots to the Town is not possible as Mrs. Slater has seen died.

3) Request from Richard Erdman for Sculpture in NWS 3rd & 4th AVE area

A decision was made to postpone this request pending a site visit.

4) Gravestone Restoration Workshop.

The CPA grant passed at the recent Town meeting provides funding for a day long workshop on how to restore gravestones. The cost is being split with Tisbury which funded a similar project. It will be held next fall and Edgartown can send up to 5 people to it.

5) Ta Mara Conde had begun work on restoration work in the Old Westside Restoration section of the cemetery.

6) Liz Villard was given permission to accept Tom Osborn's offer to turn the Capt. Martin gravestone in the Chappaquiddick cemetery back to its original orientation. He is willing to do this work for free. Liz Villard will work with him on this project.

7) It is hoped that the Plaque honoring the Native American heritage of the Chappaquiddick cemetery will be ready in time for it to be dedicated at the annual Chappaquiddick tribal meeting in July. The cost of the plaque has increased because its text has increased in size. Liz Villard is working on how to deal with the added expense. She will contact the tribe and ask if they would be willing to contribute to that cost.

None of the items listed under new business. They were all items that needed input from Jen Morgan.

At this point, the Commission discussed with Pam Dolby and Marilyn Wortman how to handle the situation. Ms. Dolby called Jack Collins, the Town Labor attorney. He advised the Commission that they should place Ms. Morgan on administrative leave and schedule a disciplinary hearing. A motion was made by Liz Villard and seconded by Andrew Kelly to follow this policy.