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On 14 September 2017, by a vote of 5-0 the CPC approved the proposed \$3,000 expenditure for gravestone conservation but deny the request to spend \$1,000 of CPA funds on volunteer training.

August 25, 2017

Jonathan Yeo, Chair
Community Preservation Committee
Planning Department, Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Ave., Newton, MA

Dear Chairperson Yeo and Members of the Community Preservation Committee,

Historic Newton and Newton's Parks and Recreation Department appreciate the funding you have provided for the multi-phase comprehensive project to restore, and make publicly accessible, Newton's three historic burying grounds. Begun with a grant from the CPA in 2003, the restoration was projected to take place over many years with the most recent phase completed in 2016.

As you know, the three burying grounds - East Parish Burying Ground (circa 1660), West Parish Burying Ground (1781), and South (also referred to as Evergreen) Burying Ground, (1803) - are some of the Newton's most important treasures. They offer an enduring record of our rich heritage, provide beautiful open space, and serve as learning laboratories for our schools and communities members.

We have come a long way, thanks in large part to CPA funding, in securing these resources for future generations through careful landscape conservation as well as gravestone and tomb restoration. However, such outdoor museums are constantly at the mercy of the elements (and sometimes people) and, of course, undergo the decay of aging materials.

Since there is still more work to be done, and since there are still funds in the project balance, we are submitting a proposal to continue to the next critical steps in this project. First, I have attached a budget and proposal for fiscal year 2018. Second, we will use the next several months to revisit the master plan and carefully chart out sensible priorities for the following year.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa S. Dady".

Lisa S. Dady
Director

JACKSON HOMESTEAD AND MUSEUM
DURANT-KENRICK HOUSE AND GROUNDS
HISTORIC BURYING GROUNDS PRESERVATION
NEWTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Fiscal Year 2018 Burying Ground Preservation Projects

Activity	Cost	Purpose
Gravestone conservation for six markers at East Parish Burying Ground	\$3,000 See attached quote	These are some of the most vulnerable gravestones at the site. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shoring up the loose and leaning stones now will prevent greater, more costly, damage in the future. 2. Repairing the broken stones will protect both pieces and should be done as soon as possible after a break to foster a better seam. Reuniting the pieces makes whole their artful designs and restores the important information in the carvings.
Community Conservation Project <i>see CPC staff notes</i>	Estimated at \$1,000 We have requested a proposal form Historic Gravestone Services	This is in the spirit of “why give (sell) them a fish when you can teach them to fish.” Using the services of a professional conservator we will train a group of volunteers on simple stone cleaning techniques which they can then employ on stones at each burying site into the future. This initiative is meant to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Broaden our ability to preserve the stones in a cost-effective way. 2. Provide an opportunity for Newton residents to engage with their local heritage sites. 3. Meet our objective to use the burial grounds as educational resources.
Contingency at 10%	\$400	
Total	\$4,400	

Historic Gravestone Services

113 Michael Lane, New Salem, MA 01355

Lisa Dady
Director
Historic Newton
527 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02458

June 21, 2016

Re: Additional gravestones and recommendation for repair.

Historic Gravestone Services (HGS) inspected six stones which are in need of preservation work. HGS proposes to perform the following work:

- 1 Slate tablet Jerusha – Stone is broken and needs an underground base. HGS will provide and install a new concrete base and mortar the stone using a lime mortar. The broken piece will be reattached using an adhesive and filled with Jahn Restoration mortar.
- 2 Slate tablet John Fuller – Stone is leaning. The site will be excavated and the stone will be cleaned and reset level with proper drainage.
- 3 Slate tablet Mary Staples - Stone is broken and had a previous failed epoxy repair and needs an underground base. HGS will provide and install a new concrete base and mortar the stone using a lime mortar. The broken pieces will be cleaned of the old epoxy and reattached using an adhesive and filled with Jahn Restoration mortar.
- 4 Marble tablet Hannah Marean - Stone is broken and had a previous failed epoxy repair. The broken pieces will be cleaned of the old epoxy and reattached using an adhesive and filled with Jahn Restoration mortar. The site will be excavated and the stone will be reset level with proper drainage.
- 5 Marble die and base Slyvia Russell – Stone is leaning and loose on base. The pieces will be cleaned and the die will be reattached to the base using a lime mortar. The site will be excavated and the stone will be reset level with proper drainage.
- 6 Marble die and base William Kenrick – Stone is leaning and loose on base. The pieces will be cleaned and the die will be reattached to the base using a lime mortar. The site will be excavated and the stone will be reset level with proper drainage.

All repairs begin with documentation of the stone with a “before” photograph and a completed assessment form. The stones are removed to allow the site to be prepared with proper drainage. The area is then excavated and prepared for resetting the stone in the original location and then reseeded with grass after restoration. Each stone will be cleaned and treated for biological growth in accordance with proper conservation techniques and using approved materials appropriate for that stone. Upon completion, an “after” photograph is taken and a booklet will be created with all repairs and photographs for your records.

Work will begin upon approval and be completed no later than June 30, 2016. Payments shall be made against invoices as work is completed. All work is performed in accordance with American Institute for Conservation’s Code of Ethics and the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards.

Total cost for the scope of work described above - \$3,000.00

Ta Mara Conde
President
Historic Gravestone Services

Historic Gravestone Services

Saving history...one gravestone at a time

Workshop for volunteer groups

Care of historic gravestones requires more than a shovel and a desire. However, with proper instruction, a small group of volunteers can accomplish great things. Each participant will learn how to document gravestones according to standards for historical and conservation purposes, including photography techniques for gravestones. Discussions will cover safety, conservation techniques according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, condition assessment of the gravestone, vegetation, landscaping, fencing, geology and history of cemeteries in America.

All participants should dress for work, including work gloves, for the hands-on portion of the workshop. Teams will form to work on stones pre-selected and approved for treatment. Beginning with documentation, condition assessment and photography, each stone will then be cleaned and reset. As individuals repeat the process working to conserve the gravestones, they will be able to explore different situations and learn the proper approach to the solution. Learning through doing, the group of volunteers will become a well trained team by the end of the day and many stones will have been preserved.

Historic Gravestone Services will provide all the tools and supplies, as well as provide each participant with a conservation information packet. The host of the workshop is responsible for advertising, directing the participants to the location, collecting any fees, water for cleaning the stones and sand and gravel. Water can usually be supplied through your Public Works Department or Fire Department. HGS will carry the liability insurance for the workshop. Workshops are completed in one day beginning at 9am and finishing work about 3pm followed by clean up and summary time. Total cost: \$1,000.00

Historic Gravestone Services
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