



APPLICATION FOR DENNIS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS

CALENDAR YEAR 2018

PRESENTED BY: REBEKAH DERICK, PRESIDENT

SWAN LAKE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.
DEPOT STREET, DENNISPORT

APPLICATION FOR DENNIS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS

SYNOPSIS

- 1) Project Title: Repair of Historic Gravestones
- 2) Organization Name: Swan Lake Cemetery Association, Inc.
- 3) Amount Requested from CPA Funds: \$10,110
- 4) Purpose: Historic Preservation
- 5) Location: Old Swan Lake Cemetery. Depot Street, Dennis Port
- 6) Synopsis of Project:

The project seeks to fund the repair and reset of a number of old gravestones in the Old Swan Lake Cemetery, the Cemetery which has served the village of Dennis Port since 1866. The gravestones selected for repair represent the “worst of the worst” in terms of damage, all damage resulting from the ravages of time and the elements. The stones to be reset were selected to mitigate further damage which might result from them toppling over. This project is ongoing, and additional stones will be selected for work in future years, as necessity demands.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

- 7) Project Title: Repair of Historic Gravestones
- 8) Organization Name: Swan Lake Cemetery Association, Inc. [a 501 (c) (13) Non-Profit Corporation]
- 9) Address: The Corporation has no Offices, and the address is that of the current President of the Corporation: c/o PO Box 291 South Dennis, MA 02660
 - a. Phone #- 508-280-4143
 - b. Email- rebekah.derick@gmail.com
 - c. Facebook- @swanlakecemeteryassociation
- 10) Federal Tax Identification Number: 04-3034716
- 11) Primary Contact Person: Rebekah Derick, President, 508-280-4143, rebekah.derick@gmail.com
 - a. Secondary Contact Person: Carlyn Carey, Treasurer, 202-701-6843, carlyncarey@yahoo.com
- 12) Primary Contact Person who can approve and receive the funds: Rebekah Derick, President
 - a. Secondary Contact Person who can approve and receive the funds: Carlyn Carey, Treasurer

APPLICANT BACKGROUND

13) History:

In 1864 there was no village cemetery in Dennis Port, which was then the most populous village in the Town of Dennis. The only available burying grounds nearby were family plots, on private ground and restricted to the families themselves, or the West Harwich Baptist Churchyard (then nearly full), or the Ancient Burying Ground in South Dennis (also nearly full).

A loose association of Dennis Port residents was formed to seek a village burying ground. Land was donated by Jeremiah & Sophia Kelley in October 1864 for that purpose. Lots were laid out and sold to residents (at minimal cost), and the first burial in the new yard took place in 1865. The Association continued, without significant rules, regulations or by-laws until 1919. Any and all care of the cemetery up to that time was undertaken on a volunteer basis by the individual families owning lots there.

By 1919, there had been considerable loss of population due to the collapse of the shipping industry. With this population loss, cemetery maintenance became a large problem. In 1919 the Association incorporated and established a set of by-laws which would enable the more organized collection of monies. This included "Perpetual Care," a voluntary program to provide money for general maintenance of lots. The "thrifty" residents either contributed minimal amounts or nothing at all for many of the existing lots, proclaiming that they and their descendants would do what was necessary. Perpetual care as then instituted did not work. Before 1919 expired, the Corporation voted that all future lot sales would require a one time perpetual care payment of \$50, an amount which was increased to \$100 in 1944 (and is much higher today).

Perpetual care was understood by all to mean one thing – the care and upkeep of the landscaping, on a lot by lot basis. No funds were presented for general upkeep of roads, fences, etc. The gravestones were envisioned as permanent and indestructible, never needing repair. Over one person's lifetime, the monuments seemed to endure, and no one could foresee that weather and acid-rain would aid in their destruction. Perpetual care funds themselves cannot be touched – only the interest earned by these funds can be used for maintenance. Unfortunately, with inflation, low interest rates, and increased costs of doing business, the annual interest earned on the Corporation's perpetual care accounts was sufficient to cover only one mowing per year. The additional two mowings and other necessary regular maintenance has been funded by personal donations or through volunteer labor of descendant families, of which few remain in town who are not old and infirm. There are no funds available for the professional expertise and materials required to repair gravestones.

14) Governing Board, & Directors

Title	Name	Address	Phone #
President	Rebekah Derick	PO Box 291 South Dennis, MA 02660	508-280-4143
Vice President	Natalie Chase	PO Box 206 Dennis Port, MA 02639	508-398-3516
Secretary	Ruth Derick	PO Box 291 South Dennis, MA 02660	508-398-3183
Treasurer	Carlyn Carey	60 Telegraph Road Dennis Port, MA 02639	202-701-6843
Assistant-Treasurer	Eleanor Koehler	PO Box 94 Dennis Port, MA 02639	404-663-6337
	Melissa Derick	PO Box 257 South Dennis, MA 02660	508-815-9458
Superintendent	Rebekah Derick	PO Box 291 South Dennis, MA 02660	508-280-4143
Directors:	Roseanne Carr	9 Crestview Drive Ext. East Sandwich, MA 02537	508-888-8411
	Melissa Derick	PO Box 257 South Dennis, MA 02660	508-815-9458
	Sherrice Golden	363 Exchange Street Millis, MA 02054	508-376-6248
	Phyllis Horton	PO Box 275 Dennis Port, MA 02639	508-394-0017
	June Howes	58 Scarsdale Road Dennis, MA 02638	508-385-9308
	Jill James-Slowik	330 Cedar Street Chatham, MA 02633	508-241-0727
	Gretchen Mann	3994 Chelsea Common Tucker, GA 30084	404-932-4520
	Barry Robbins	34 Church Street West Dennis, MA 02670	774-810-9408

Title	Name	Address	Phone #
	Richard Santos	3 Eastern Avenue Harwich Port, MA 02646	508-432-1986
	Sharon Whittemore	316 Depot Street Dennis Port, MA 02639	508-398-7775
	James Wilson	380 Huckins Neck Road Centerville, MA 02632	508-375-6324

15) Summary of Comparable Projects Completed

In 1969, repairs to several stones were undertaken using technology that was inadequate, and as a result, the repairs did not last. These stones, one of which is included within the scope of this proposal (lot #112), then required additional and further repairs.

Professional repairs also have been done privately by descendent lot owners, with no involvement from the Association. These repairs have been sparse and minimal at best.

The only source of funding that has been found for this professional repair work is from CPA. Gravestone repair work was generously supported by the Committee with grants in FY2008 and FY2011. With these grants, numerous gravestones and the receiving tomb were repaired using appropriate materials completed by a skilled professional.

PROJECT INFORMATION

16) Project Concept: Professional Repair of Gravestones

17) Project Goals/ Objectives:

To select the “worst of the worst” of the broken and near-broken gravestones for immediate repair.

18) Legal issues, ramifications, or impediments

There are no legal issues, or ramifications. The only impediments are appropriate weather and the scheduling of repairs. The needed repairs need appropriate weather for epoxies to cure and joints/sealants to dry properly.

19) Objectives of the CPA

The gravestones in need of repair are historic, mostly involving residents who flourished in the 1800's. The graveyard itself is historic, the burial site for many famous mariners and Captains of vessels, veterans of the Civil War and subsequent national engagements up to and including the war in Vietnam. There are nearly 100 recognized (not including the Life-Saving Service and the Merchant Marine) veterans are buried in Swan Lake Cemetery.

Swan Lake Cemetery is the burial place of the only Cape Cod resident, Benjamin Franklin Baker, to win the Congressional Medal of Honor.

These facts show that the preservation of gravestones in Swan Lake Cemetery meets the objectives of Historic Preservation falling under the Community Preservation Act.

20) Current and Future Needs of Dennis

Swan Lake Cemetery is an active burial ground and continues to be visited by descendants and neighbors. There are lots available for sale, as well as locations available for descendants on owned lots. Someday, this cemetery may come under the ownership of the Town of Dennis, due to the challenges of engaging volunteers and donors.

21) Dennis Local Comprehensive Plan: N/A

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION & BUDGET

22) Total CPA Funding Request: Estimated cost of project:	\$8,088
Estimated inflation factor (10%)	\$808.8
Contingency (15%)	<u>\$1213.20</u>
	TOTAL: \$10,110

23) Line Item budget: The stones selected by the Directors for repair are individually listed in Appendix A, attached, with a description of the problem on each. A map of the stone locations and estimate from Henry T. Crosby and Son are attached.

24) Evidence of interest from potential lenders

None. The Association is not in a position to borrow money when there are: no negotiable assets and no fixed income.

25) List of funding sources

Donations made are private in nature and are specific to maintenance issues. We receive on average \$800 annually in contributions, most in memory of those interred.

When a cemetery lot is sold, the monies are divided in half. Half goes into general operations/maintenance, the other half into perpetual care. Approximately 6-8 grave spaces are sold annually.

26) Community Housing Project- Sources and Uses of Funds- N/A

SUPPORT DOCUMENTS

27) Letters of support from community organizations or other such sources (no more than 5)

a. See attached

28) References- N/A

29) Other relevant materials specific to the project

a. See attached for estimates of project costs (Appendix A).

b. See attached for map of cemetery showing locations of stones needing repair.

30) Copy of the most recent US Income Tax Form 990- N/A

The Association files 990-EZ electronic postcard (certifying that the Association's gross receipts are less than \$50,000) and no 990 is available.

APPENDIX A: Line Item Budget



Lot #106: Alice May Crowell
(cracked and loose from the base)



Lot #111: Luther S. Whittemore
(loose from the base)



Lot #112: Orin M. Smith (stone needs to be replaced, not a repair)

Lot #117: Sarah A. Sears (loose from the base)



Lot #118-C.S. Footstone-separated from the base

Lot #122-Polly J. Pierce- loose from the base





Lot #206: H.D.W. (footstone needs to be replaced, not repairable)



Lot #266: Ruth A. (broken, was hit by a car, a granite post has now been placed at the corner of the lot to prevent future damage)



Lot #267: Mergie J. (rods need to be replaced, stone broken from base)

31) Certificate of Non-Collusion

CERTIFICATE OF NON-COLLUSION

The undersigned certifies under penalties of perjury that this proposal has been made and submitted in good faith and without collusion or fraud with any other person. As used in this certification, the word "person" shall mean any natural person, business, partnership, corporation, union, committee, club, or other organization, entity, or group of individuals.

Chief Executive Officer(s):

Name (print)

Name (print)

Signature

Title

Date

Signature

Title

Date