

Newport Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission

September, 2022

Meeting agenda

Location- Newport Public Library

1. Call to order
2. Approve minutes from August 10, 2022 meeting
3. Updates
 - a. Stone work- Beyond the Gravestone
 - b. Braman bike/walk path construction
 - c. Common Burying Ground self-guided tour
 - d. Common Burying Ground digital tour
 - e. Clifton Self-guided tour
 - f. Albro tomb work
4. Fall events?
 - a. October 1- open house at CBG to showcase recent work; debut digital tour? 10 am to noon?
 - b. October 15, 22 or 29- open house at Braman to showcase recent work-
5. Traffic pattern in the Common Burying Ground discussion (see map below)
6. October 12th meeting- last of the current commission
 - a. Begin dog discussion? Invite Island cemetery board? Julie?
 - b. Other loose ends?
7. November 9 meeting- commission reorganization; selection of chair and secretary; set meeting days, times, places; dog recommendation (if any) for city council?

1. Should the up-hill road stay active to allow access via vehicles?

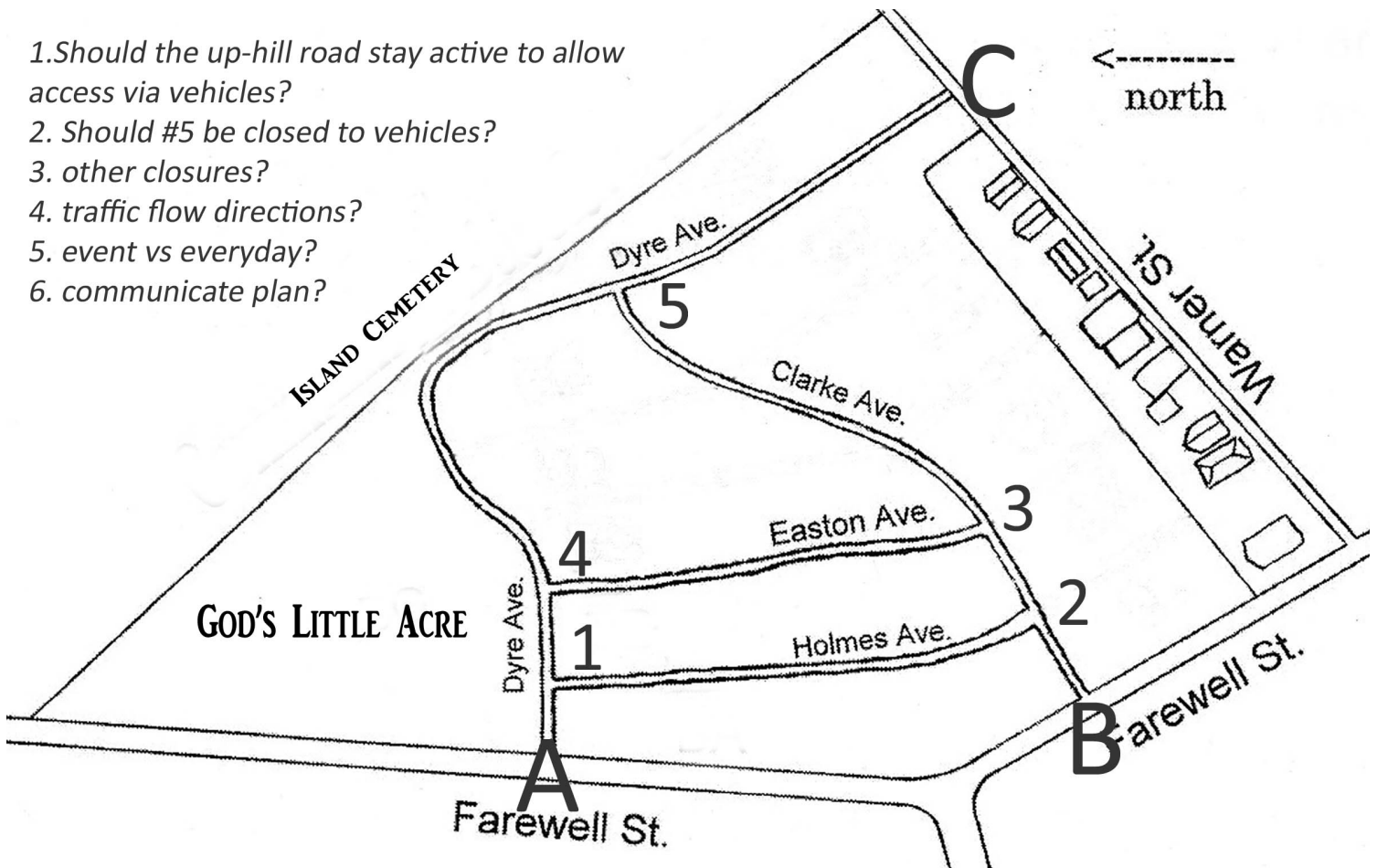
2. Should #5 be closed to vehicles?

3. other closures?

4. traffic flow directions?

5. event vs everyday?

6. communicate plan?



A response from Martha Lyons to a question asked by Andy Long, Newport This Week reporter:

Finally, one last question. I was struck by the tension not between those at the meeting but between access and preservation at GLA? Do you have any thoughts on this subject in general and in the particular case of GLA?

“As a landscape architect and specialist in historic preservation, it is my professional responsibility to recommend ways a client can safeguard an historic property, especially when original works of art – in this case gravestone carvings – are involved. It is important that stewards of such properties take a long view, and avoid introducing features – such as asphalt paving – that are difficult to remove and have the potential to increase, rather than decrease vehicular traffic. Many burial grounds of this period have no circulation in them at all (in fact most that I have worked on), and other ways of bringing the site to visitors can be just as effective (through signage, use of technology, etc.), if not more so. That said, the choice about access comes down to what the city wants, so I can only recommend what I know to be best practice.”