

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

July 29, 2015

Joseph A. Curtatone  
Mayor  
City of Somerville  
City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02143

**RE: Milk Row Cemetery, SOMERVILLE, MA, MPPF #4055**

Dear Mayor Curtatone:

As Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, I am pleased to inform you that the above-mentioned project has been selected for a matching allocation of **\$45,000** from the Commission's Round 21: Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF).

Due to the competitive nature of the program and limited funding, your award may differ from your requested amount. Please note that the grant is subject to reauthorization of the capital accounts and the availability of sufficient allocated funds. The Office of Administration and Finance must first allocate the Commission's Round 21 Massachusetts Preservation Project Fund Grants. The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) will not be liable for any amount or loss caused by the non-reauthorization or non-allocation of said funds.

If said funds are reauthorized and allocated, the Commission will provide 50:50 matching funds for the stabilization of tombs #1-6 in the row of eight. This work will include: careful removal of all cement stucco and rebuilding of the brick façade along with the repair of any loose or out of position bricks on top of the roof vaults; the resetting of the existing concrete cap or in kind replacement of this cap along with necessary flashings and a breathable waterproofing barrier at the back of the wall above the vaults; the re-grading of soil around and above the mound tombs; the conservation and resetting of the marble plaques; the painting of the iron doors; and the removal of the residual lime from the face of the exposed brick.

The project as scoped involves a quantity of masonry repointing. A formal historic mortar analysis may be required in order to accurately match the original mortar.

This project has the potential for ground disturbance. Under MPPF guidelines, the MHC will assess the potential for archaeological impacts and some level of archaeological survey may be required. Costs associated with the archaeological survey will be considered eligible MPPF expenses.

This allocation is contingent upon the successful execution of the following steps, all of which must be completed before construction or pre-development work can begin:

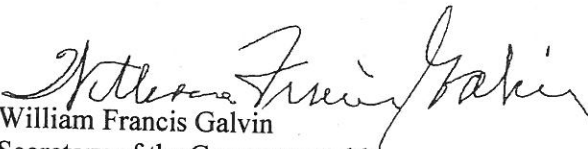
1. Consultation with MHC Grants Division and Technical Staff to complete the full plans and specifications for project work items or to develop the pre-development Request For Proposals (RFPs). Please note that the MHC may require changes from the scope of work or budget as presented in your application in order to meet the program guidelines and funding allocation. Please note that **September 30, 2015** is the deadline for final approved construction documents or final approval for pre-development RFPs.
2. Execution of a grant contract with the Massachusetts Historical Commission is a program requirement. It will define the grant-assisted project under applicable laws and regulations and include either plans and specifications or an RFP, a budget, and timetable for the full scope of eligible and approved work items.
3. The grants staff will convene a workshop for Local Project Coordinators (LPCs) and other project participants on Wednesday, **August 12, 2015** from **1:00 PM to 3:30 PM** in the MHC offices at the Massachusetts Archives Building in Boston. **LPC attendance at this scheduled workshop is a requirement of the program.** We also encourage the attendance of other project team members, such as architects, preservation consultants, or engineers. **Please contact the MHC grants staff to confirm that you will be attending.** Also, please come to this meeting prepared to schedule preliminary site visits with assigned MHC grants staff to finalize a mutually agreeable scope of work for your MPPF project. These site visits should preferably be scheduled prior to the end of July and will require the attendance of your architect/engineer for all development projects.

Please respond in writing to Brona Simon, Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer, MHC, by **August 12, 2015** with your intention to accept the grant allocation and meet with appropriate MHC personnel.

A Local Project Coordinators' Manual will be distributed at the meeting. Directions to the Archives Building can be found on the MHC website at: <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc/mhclloc/mhclloc.htm>.

The Commission looks forward to working with you toward the successful completion of your project. We sincerely hope that this grant allocation will help you to achieve your preservation goals.

Sincerely,

  
William Francis Galvin  
Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission

cc: J. Brandon Wilson, Exec. Director of Hist. Preservation Comm., LPC