

Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center
P.O. Box 692
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

CEMETERY BY-LAWS
Amended and approved at Annual Meeting of Congregation
7/13/14

The Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center, whose members have the right to burial in the consecrated burial grounds known as the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Cemetery, located on West Spring Street in Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts, ordains the following rules and regulations to govern the management of said cemetery.

Definitions

The word "Center" shall herein mean Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center. The word "Committee" shall herein mean the Cemetery Committee duly elected by Article X section 1 of the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center By-Laws. The word "Member" shall mean a person who has paid-up dues status in the Center. The words "Family Member(s)" shall include one or two adults, married or life partners, one of whom must be of the Jewish faith, and may include minor and or dependent and/or adult children up to the age of thirty. The words "Dependent Children" means, a) any children under the age of 30 years who depend upon their mother or father for support and maintenance, b) children who due to health reasons are over 30 years of age but still depend upon their mother or father for support and maintenance, or c) children who because of educational reasons are over 30 years of age but still depend upon their mother or father for support and maintenance.

Article I: Committee Powers

The Committee members shall serve as the Directors of the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Cemetery. The Committee shall have the authority to maintain and to alter these Cemetery By-Laws in a manner consistent with the By-Laws of the Center. The Committee is also empowered to act (in matters relating to the Cemetery) in the best interest of the Center under conditions, which are not covered by these Cemetery By-Laws, or under conditions wherein these Cemetery By-Laws are unclear.

Article II: Cemetery Grounds

The Committee may lay out or alter walks or drives as it deems necessary for the proper maintenance of the Cemetery. This does not include any movement of existing graves. The Committee may make and/or alter such rules and regulations as it deems requisite and proper for promoting the general purposes of the Cemetery.

Article III: Interment Conditions

Interment shall be carried out by a licensed undertaker. The Committee shall be given ample notice prior to an interment. The Committee shall determine the gravesite to be used for an interment and said gravesite shall be recorded upon the Cemetery Master List kept by the Committee Chairperson or his appointed alternate Committee member. An interment shall take place between sunrise and sunset. Religious (or non-religious) ceremonies and/ or services may be held in the Cemetery at time of interment

or at other times but are expected to be non-violative of the spirit of Jewish burial and ceremonial customs. Immediately at conclusion of interment, a temporary grave-marker of non-perishable material must be installed by the undertaker.

Article IV: Monuments

A permanent grave-marker must be placed at the gravesite within one year after interment. This grave-marker, whether a monument, gravestone or plaque (and foot-stones, if chosen) shall be approved in advance by the Committee as to its design, character and inscription and may in no event be contrary to Jewish Law. The placement of the aforementioned monument, gravestone or plaque (and foot-stones, if chosen) shall be approved in advance by the Committee. Enclosures around plots and/or graves are prohibited. Boundary markers are prohibited.

Article V: Gravesite Selection

Gravesite selection is made by the Committee at time of need. Under certain limited conditions gravesites may be reserved in advance of need. These conditions are spelled out in Cemetery By-Laws Appendix Number 4. Reserved gravesites will be entered on the Cemetery Master List.

Article VI: Gravesite Maintenance

The center accepts full responsibility for the maintenance of the Cemetery grounds in general and gravesites specifically. The Center delegates the responsibility for the accomplishment of these functions to the Committee. Certain portions of these responsibilities as may involve gravesite plantings at specific gravesites may be temporarily granted by the Committee to surviving family members of grave inhabitants. This is covered in Cemetery By-Laws Appendix Number 2.

Article VII: Costs

Charges for gravesites and/or for gravesite reservations and charges for endowed care plus charges for special care for certain added plantings at gravesites are as spelled out in Cemetery By-Laws Appendix Number 1.

Article VIII: Non-Members

Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center members have the right of burial in the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Cemetery. However, if a Jewish non-member requests burial in the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Cemetery, the Committee may, on occasion, make an exception if there are special circumstances to consider. A fee for non-members will be charged. These fees and rules are set forth in Cemetery By-Laws Appendix Number 3.

Dated: June 22, 1998

Revised: May 29, 2002

Revised: November 14, 2002

Amended 7/14/2013

Amended 7/13/14

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Appendices to Cemetery By-Laws

Appendix 1: Costs

The cost of the right to interment in the Cemetery (for which a plot is provided) is \$1,200 for members who are current and have been in good standing for the prior three consecutive years. A current member in good standing is given a credit of one tenth of the cost of the right to interment for each year of consecutive membership prior to need. The survivors (s) of the member being interred with less than ten years of prior credits will be required to pay the pro-rata difference for the member's interment in a timely manner.

The cost for endowed care of such individual plot is \$1,000 for a member

Appendix 2: Gravesite Maintenance

Plant materials other than in pots may not be placed at gravesites. Survivors may choose to maintain pre-existing plantings in a neat and proper manner by their own efforts. Alternately they may choose to have the Center do this extra maintenance for a modest annual fee, which the committee will establish and which may be added to the annual dues for Center membership. In absence of a declaration of self-maintenance or agreement to pay fee, the Center will remove those pre-existing plantings at no charge.

Appendix 3: Non-members

Burial for non-members is solely at the discretion of the Cemetery Committee. For this privilege a plot fee of \$3,000 and the applicable endowed care fee of \$1,500 is charged, payable at time of request for interment.

Appendix 4: Gravesite Selection

Committee will hold (on written request) an adjacent plot (or plots, if applicable) for members who are survivors of a deceased member. Plots held must conform to the definition of "family members" as listed under "Definitions" in the Cemetery By-Laws. Said "family members" may purchase their right to interment at the member rate of \$1,200 for right to interment and \$1,000 for endowed care within six months of the interment of the deceased member. If surviving "family members" do not choose this option and subsequently allow their memberships to lapse, they must then purchase plots at the non-member rate.

Dated: June 22, 1998
Revised: May 29, 2002
Amended 7/14/2013
Amended 7/13/14

Appendix 5: Monuments

This is intended to act as a supplement to Article IV of the Cemetery By-Laws originally dated 10-4-92, modified 06-22-98 and 05/29/02. The statements and intent of Article IV are still applicable.

Graves in Section C and thereafter in later sections not yet defined will be in double rows where physically possible. A walkway will separate these double rows to allow approach to each grave at the "Foot" of each grave. If the permanent marker chosen is to be an elevated one, such as a stone monument, it shall be placed at the "Head" of the grave and any engraving should face the "Foot" of the grave. This will permit visitors who approach via a walkway, to view the marker in a meaningful manner. This also indicates that grave markers will be "Back to Back" in the double rows. The maximum height of any stone or marker will not exceed 36 inches including base or pedestal.

Whether or not a headstone is selected, a footstone or other foot marker is permitted as per Article IV. Markings chosen for these will face the "Foot" of the grave and these markers, if elevated, may not exceed 6 inches in height.

Dated: 10-10-95
Revised: 5/29/02
Amended 7/14/2013
Amended 7/13/2014

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Added Appendix to Cemetery By-Laws

Appendix 6: Grave Liners and Concrete Pedestals

Grave liners are required.

Grave liner tops shall be a minimum of 24" below grade.

All memorials and markers must be installed on a concrete pedestal.

Revised
10/15/2002