A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON TO ESTABLISH THE NOCKUM HILL HISTORIC PARK ON THE TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY AT GEORGE STREET LOT 3A

WHEREAS: The Town purchased George Street Lot 3A in 2019, at the urging of a dedicated coalition of concerned citizens to save the property from development in the hopes that it would be maintained as open space and preserved for its natural and historic significance.

WHEREAS: The Barrington Comprehensive Plan, 2015 Update, Chapter 5, Natural & Cultural Resources (Page 83), recognizes the George Street Nockum Hill area as having "major historical and religious significance," as "the site of the founding of three towns – Barrington, Warren, and Swansea, MA."

WHEREAS: Recent National Park Service (NPS) grant-funded research and archaeological studies completed by the Public Archaeology Survey Team (PAST), Inc, in collaboration with the Barrington Preservation Society (BPS) and the Town of Barrington have confirmed Nockum Hill Lot 3A to be the site of a seventeenth-century village centered around the Reverend John Myles' Meetinghouse, as well as the site of the first battle of King Philip's War.

WHEREAS: The establishment of the Nockum Hill Historic Park would further the stated goal of the Barrington Comprehensive Plan, 2015 Update, Chapter 6, Outdoor Recreation (Page 99), to "meet the community's evolving recreational needs, both passive and active, by providing high quality multiple-use outdoor recreational facilities benefiting people of all ages."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of Barrington that:

SECTION 1: That the 6.8-acre parcel of land at George Street Lot 3A is hereby designated as the Nockum Hill Historic Park.

SECTION 2: That the Barrington Preservation Society (BPS) is and shall be the steward of the park's historic preservation, consistent with BPS's mission to "identify, acquire, hold, arrange, maintain, open to the public with suitable regulations, and preserve for posterity buildings, places, sites, objects and information of historical interest within or pertaining to the Town of Barrington, Rhode Island." This shall include the creation, content, and placement of historic signage, implementation of educational programs, and application for appropriate local, state, and/or federal recognition of the site's historic significance.

SECTION 3: That the Barrington Land Conservation Trust (BLCT) is and shall be the steward of the park's natural and environmental character. And, in coordination with the Barrington Preservation Society (BPS), this shall include the creation and maintenance of nature trails that emphasize the historically significant areas identified by historic signage and promote the natural beauty of the land.

SECTION 4: By a majority vote of the Council

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town of Barrington Town Council on September 14 , 2026

Braxton H. Cloutiér
Town Council President

Stephanie Bernardo
Town Clerk