

Town of North Yarmouth- Boston Post Cane Policy

SECTION 1. PURPOSE & OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the preservation and public awareness of the tradition of the Boston Post Cane; to protect the cane itself from loss or damage; to establish a protocol and definition for North Yarmouth's oldest citizen recognizing that numerous individuals establish residency in nursing homes very late in life, but otherwise may not be engaged as citizens of the Town of North Yarmouth, and recognizing that the Selectmen and Town Clerk have no formal means of identifying residents by age.

SECTION 2. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

To be eligible to receive the honor a person must:

- 1) Be the oldest living person residing* in North Yarmouth at the time designation is made; **and**
- 2) Must have resided in the Town of North Yarmouth within the last five years, **and** a legal resident not less than 15 of the last 40 years; **and**
- 3) Must be able and willing to receive the honor in person or through a family member

* Residing: Defined as: Considering your home here; Living here; or Living in a nursing facility within 30 miles of the NY Town Office

SECTION 3. BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES & PRESENTATION

Whenever the last recipient of the Boston Post Cane shall die, move further away than 30 miles from the Town Office or otherwise refuse or return the honor, the Selectmen shall endeavor to determine the new oldest citizen of North Yarmouth.

This endeavor may be undertaken by informal survey of senior citizen groups should they exist, newspaper advertisement, general public knowledge, inquiry to North Yarmouth's churches, and civic groups, or by nomination from family or friends of elderly citizens.

The Selectmen shall determine the oldest resident and provide acknowledgment of such resident.

The subsequent discovery of an older resident or the relocation of another older person to the community shall not affect the validity of the honor or designation.

The Chair of the Board of Selectmen or his/her designee shall present North Yarmouth's oldest citizen with a framed certificate signifying the honor and shall cause the name of the honoree to be displayed along with the original Boston Post Cane.

ADOPTED: October 29, 2013

Steven Palmer

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Mark Girard

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