

Meeting of the Cemetery Commission
Monday November 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
Bristol Historical Society, 98 Summer Street, Bristol, CT 06010

ATTENDEES: Chairman Michael Saman
Commissioner Linda Arbesman
Commissioner Thomas LaPorte
Commissioner Nicole LaPorte
Commissioner Stanley Piotrowski

ABSENT: Council Member Panioto

1. Call to Order

Chairman Saman called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Piotrowski to accept the October 2, 2023 meeting minutes as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Arbesman.

All in favor; motion passed

4. Approval of 2024 Cemetery Commission Meeting Calendar

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Arbesman to accept the 2024 Cemetery Commission Meeting Calendar.

Seconded by Commissioner Nicole LaPorte.

All in favor; motion passed

5. Old Business by Commissioners

- Wreaths Across America set for Saturday at noon on December 16, 2023 at North Cemetery.
 - No updates.

6. New Business by Commissioners

- Updates on the Civil War Monument in West Cemetery. Conservation needs. State Historic Register.
 - Christoph is still working on the Eagle and quoted about \$25,000 to restore the rest of the monument. There is a grant available through the National Park Service that would be a dollar-for-dollar match. The Commission will reach out to Travelers as soon as possible to see if they are willing to contribute towards the restoration of the monument. The application deadline for the grant is December 19th. Chairman Saman will reach out to Corporation Counsel and Dawn Leger to coordinate the request for funds/grant application.

- Schall & Staub Enterprises working on the “Iron Fence” grave site at North Cemetery.
 - No updates
- The paperwork for locating gravestones at North Cemetery was given out. The Cemetery Commission will now be correcting it so it can be given out and put on the internet. QR codes on selected cemetery stones will be included plus other information that’s collected.
 - The Commission discussed the overall maintenance of North Cemetery and Down St Cemetery. The brush from the recent cleanup still needs to be picked up by the Public Works Department and there is a tree that is rotting and needs to be taken down. Chairman Saman will follow up with Raymond Rogozinski and will ask Council Member Panioto to follow up as well. The Commission discussed how to utilize the existing funds allocated for cemetery maintenance. It was suggested that approximately \$2,000 be used for Christoph to repair stones and \$1,000 be used for mowing/brush removal at Lewis Street Cemetery.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Nicole LaPorte to reach out to West Cemetery Association for an estimate on the amount of mowing/brush removal they could complete for \$1,000 at the Lewis Street Cemetery. The Commission will be specific and establish clear guidelines regarding the expectations for the work.

Seconded by Commissioner Piotrowski.
All in favor; motion passed

Commissioner Arbesman will go to Lewis Street Cemetery and take photos/forward them to the Commission.

7. Any other business proper to come before the meeting.

None.

8. Adjournment.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Arbesman to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 pm.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Thomas LaPorte.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mike Saman, Chairman