

Meeting of the Cemetery Commission
Monday September 9, 2024 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 Stanley Piotrowski
Council Member Sebastian Panioto

ABSENT: None

1. Call to Order

Chairman Saman called the meeting to order at 5:27 pm.

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Approval of August 12, 2024 Minutes – Regular Meeting

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Arbesman to accept the August 12, 2024 meeting minutes as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Piotrowski.

All in favor; motion passed

4. Old Business by Commissioners

- Chairman Saman reminded Commissioners that the Wreaths Across America event is scheduled for noon on Saturday December 14, 2024 at Lewis Street Cemetery. This item will be added to the agenda.

5. New Business by Commissioners

- Updates on the Civil War Monument in West Cemetery. Conservation needs. State Historic Register.
 - Christoph is able to fix the flag pole near the recently renovated monument and install a rope for \$200. A solar light would have to be installed. Council Member Panioto will reach out to Public Works and the Parks Department regarding the light installation.

MOTION: Made by Chairman Saman to use \$200 from the Cemetery Professional Fees General Account to have Christoph restore the flag pole next to the recently renovated Civil War Monument in West Cemetery.

Seconded by Commissioner Arbesman.

All in favor; motion passed

- Look for Grants to finish Civil War Monument

- The Commission discussed different grant options. There is the 1772 Foundation Grant but it is only available to non profit organizations. The Commission may reach out to the Historical Society or DAR to submit an application. There are also general historic restoration grants that could be applied for through the City and Council Member Panioto will look into the details.
- 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.
 - No updates.
- Review Lawn Care Contract
 - Several commission members met at North Cemetery and identified stones that need attention. There were eight flattened stones and Chairman Saman reached out to Christoph about fixing them. There are also six stones that need repair at Downs St Cemetery. Christoph stated that the cost to repair the stones at North Cemetery would be \$400 per stone and the stones at Downs St Cemetery would be \$500 per stone.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Piotrowski to have Christoph repair eight (8) headstones at \$400 each for a total of \$3200 at North Cemetery with funds from the Pardee Trust. And to have Christoph repair four (4) headstones at \$500 each for a total of \$2000 at Downs St Cemetery with funds from the Cemetery Professional Fees General Account.

Seconded by Commissioner LaPorte.

All in favor; motion passed

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

This year's Lantern Tours are scheduled for October 5th & 6th. The rain dates will be the following weekend. An open rehearsal will be held at BHS on October 4th for anyone who cannot walk the tours at the cemetery.

7. Adjournment.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner LaPorte to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 pm.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Arbesman.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mike Saman, Chairman