

Meeting of the Cemetery Commission
Monday October 7, 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 5:47 pm.

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Approval of September 9, 2024 Minutes – Regular Meeting

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Piotrowski to accept the September 9, 2024 meeting minutes as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Arbesman.

All in favor; motion passed

4. Old Business by Commissioners

- Chairman Saman was unable to touch base with Christoph regarding the stones that need repair at Lewis St and Downs St Cemeteries and will reach out this week.

5. New Business by Commissioners

- Updates on the Civil War Monument in West Cemetery. Conservation needs. State Historic Register.
 - The West Cemetery Association was not interested in pursuing the State Historic Registry. This line will be removed from the agenda.
- Look for Grants to finish Civil War Monument
 - Chairman Saman spoke with Ellen Zoppo about grants options, she offered to help the Commission find and apply for grants to finish the monument repairs. Council Member Panioto has also been speaking with Dawn Leger regarding the state grant. Dawn has already reached out to Ray Rogozinski and Dave Oakes from the Public Works Department.
- 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
 - Commissioners LaPorte and Arbesman visited Lewis Street Cemetery this past weekend and reported that the lawn looked good. They, along with a handful of volunteers, performed routine maintenance around the cemetery and got a lot of trimming done.
- Wreaths Across America – Saturday December 14, 2024
 - The group of volunteers that helped clean up Lewis Street Cemetery would like to go back in the near future to continue maintenance and spend more time repairing stones ahead of the Wreaths Across America event. The Commission would like the event to be advertised on the City of Bristol website and Facebook pages. They will also reach out to Brian Johnson for coverage from the Bristol Press.

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

The Commission is short by one commissioner. Chairman Saman will email the Mayor's Office with a recommendation to fill the vacancy.

The Commission may look into requesting money from the City to address vandalism. They discussed requesting an annual allocation from the budget each year so they can address future vandalism issues in a more efficient manner.

7. Adjournment.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner LaPorte to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 pm.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Arbesman.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mike Saman, Chairman