

Meeting of the Cemetery Commission
Monday March 10, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
Bristol Historical Society, 98 Summer Street, Bristol, CT 06010

ATTENDEES: Chairman Michael Saman
Commissioner Maya Bringe
Commissioner Thomas LaPorte
Commissioner Stanley Piotrowski
Council Member Sebastian Panioto

ABSENT: Commissioner Linda Arbesman

1. Call to Order

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

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Approval of November 4, 2024 Minutes – Regular Meeting

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Piotrowski to accept the November 4, 2024 meeting minutes as written.

Seconded by Commissioner LaPorte.

All in favor; motion passed

4. Old Business by Commissioners

Chairman Saman stated that the Wreaths Across America event was well attended. Caesar completed a clean-up prior to the event and the reviews were very positive. There has been discussion regarding whether or not the event should be expanded to other cemeteries in town.

5. New Business by Commissioners

- Updates on the Civil War Monument in West Cemetery. Conservation needs.
- Look for Grants to finish Civil War Monument
 - No updates at this time. The Commission is still trying to find funding/grants to complete the repairs. Council Member Panioto will follow up with Dawn Leger and Chairman Saman will follow up with the Main Street Foundation.
- 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

- The Commission would like to explore the opportunity to have cemetery maintenance as part of the budget every year, instead of reaching out to the Board of Finance every time a repair is needed. Chairman Saman will contact Roger Rousseau regarding the existing Lawn Care Contract.

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

The Veterans Council will no longer be placing flags at each Veteran gravesite due to the cost of flags. Instead, they will be creating designated flag gardens in each cemetery.

Chairman Saman reviewed the 2024 fund statement for the Sarah Norton Pardee Fund that was sent by the Main Street Foundation.

Commissioner Bringe would like to organize a self-guided tour through West Cemetery this spring. Anticipated cost per person is \$5 to cover the cost of signage and printing information brochures. West Cemetery would be the ideal cemetery to use because there is already so much available information due to the Lantern Tours. There are also monuments and other locations of historical significance. The Commission would also like to look into other community events that could be held at West Cemetery.

7. Adjournment.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner LaPorte to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 pm.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Arbesman.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mike Saman, Chairman