

Meeting of the Cemetery Commission
Monday April 14, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
Bristol Historical Society, 98 Summer Street, Bristol, CT 06010

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

ABSENT: Council Member Sebastian Panioto

1. Call to Order

Chairman Saman called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Approval of March 10, 2025 Minutes – Regular Meeting

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Piotrowski to accept the March 10, 2025 meeting minutes as written.

Seconded by Commissioner LaPorte.

All in favor; motion passed

4. Old Business by Commissioners

None.

5. New Business by Commissioners

- Updates on the Civil War Monument in West Cemetery. Conservation needs.
- Look for Grants to finish Civil War Monument
 - Chairman Saman reviewed a recent Bristol Press article regarding state grants that were awarded to several surrounding towns for cemetery maintenance, and met with Dawn Leger to see if there are funds available for Bristol as well. Christoph provided Chairman Saman with an updated quote for the Civil War Monument repairs which came in at a lower amount. Chairman Saman has spoken with City Staff and the Main St. Community Foundation regarding fundraising.
- 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
 - Chairman Saman spoke to Roger Rousseau regarding the current lawn care contract with West Cemetery and how to move forward. The Commission would like to open up conversations with Tom

Barnes Sr. and the West Cemetery Association to move the historical records to City Hall so they can be preserved. The Commission also discussed requesting that a yearly line item be created in the budget for cemetery maintenance so they don't need to go before the Board of Finance for every repair.

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

United Way Day of Caring – The United Way Day of Caring is scheduled for Friday May 16, 2025. Chairman Saman submitted a request for five volunteers to help with stone cleaning and brush pickup at Lewis Street Cemetery.

Spring/Summer West Cemetery Tour – Commissioner Bringe distributed a list of thirty-six possible stops for the self-guided tours at West Cemetery. Commissioner Bringe submitted a grant application for the cost of printing books/brochures and would like to get a date scheduled soon.

7. Adjournment.

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

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Bringe.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mike Saman, Chairman