

Regular Meeting of the Cemetery Commission
Monday August 8, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.
Bristol Historical Society, 98 Summer Street, Bristol, CT 06010

ATTENDEES: Chairman Michael Saman
Commissioner Nicole Laporte
Commissioner Thomas Laporte
Council Member Panioto
Commissioner Stanley Piotrowski

ABSENT: Commissioner Linda Arbesman

1. Call to Order

Chairman Saman called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Piotrowski to accept the July 11, 2022 meeting minutes as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Thomas LaPorte.

All in favor; motion passed

4. Old Business by Commissioners

- Grave stones in Mine Brook.
 - No updates.
- Wreaths Across America – Date is Saturday December 17, 2022 at the Lewis Street Cemetery @ 12 Noon.
 - No updates.

5. New Business by Commissioners

- Lantern Tour at West Cemetery. We have reserved 4 dates at the Barnes Chapel. We have reserved Sept 30, Oct 1, 8, 9. We have set 'rain dates'. This will still keep up in the Mum Festival event calendar.
 - Commissioner Nicole LaPorte provided the Commission with an update on the planning of the 2022 Lantern Tours. The tours are scheduled for September 30th and October 1st with rain dates of October 8th and 9th respectively. The plan is to have seven groups of thirty people step off every twenty minutes. It is anticipated that there will be six actors and three tour guides and the compensation for the two nights will total approximately \$1,800. The next steps will be script outlines and setting up rehearsals.
- Continue the discussion of the Civil War Monument in West Cemetery. Conservation needs. State Historic Register.

- Chairman Saman spoke with several people regarding the monument. Christoph believes the monument could be repaired and he has a controlled room where the restoration can be performed for approximately \$25K (includes labor and materials). The Commission may consider asking contractor in the area to donate their services and materials to getting the eagle down. Chairman Saman also notified the Commission that the Board of Finance has received the Cemetery Commission's request for funding along with the original quote for the project.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Piotrowski to solicit funds from the Board of Finance totaling \$31,000 for the removal of the eagle (\$6,000), and restoration of the eagle (\$5,000 for materials & \$20,000 for labor).

Seconded by Commissioner Thomas LaPorte.

All in favor; motion passed

- Vandalism at one of Bristol's Historic Cemeteries – Downs.
 - Chairman Saman stated that the tree was marked for removal and that Roger Rousseau is looking into having the Public Works Department repair the fence. The repairs should be below any deductible and would simply be a repair expense.
- Lawn Maintenance at the four Historic Grave areas in Bristol.
 - No updates. The cemeteries seem to be in pretty bad shape in terms of mowing.
- Schall & Staub Enterprises working on the "Iron Fence" gravesite at North Cemetery.
 - The fence may be completed by the September Cemetery Commission meeting.
- Work on Software for locating gravestones at North Cemetery.
 - No updates.
- QR Codes on selected cemetery stones.
 - No updates.

6. Any other business proper to come before the Meeting

Chairman Saman stated that Ruth Brown offered to do a cemetery seminar. The Commission will look into booking a room at the Library.

7. Adjournment.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Nicole LaPorte to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Thomas LaPorte.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mike Saman, Chairman