TOWN OF EAST HADDAM
Cemetery Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2023
Municipal Office Building
Meeting room 3
Via Zoom and YouTube Live

In attendance:

Cemetery Committee Members

Karl Stofko
Alison Guinness
Deb Denette
Richard Pettinelli

Others

Donald Henson

Call to Order

Dr. Stofko called the Cemetery Committee to order at 7:01 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes

Mrs. Guinness motioned to accept the minutes of the March 30, 2023 special meeting as presented. Mr. Pettinelli seconded the motion to accept as presented. The minutes of the March 30, 2023 special meeting carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Mrs. Denette advised that she participated in a demonstration of CemSites software. She stated that it would accommodate the multiple cemeteries that we have and the product seems very intuitive. She noted however, that the $7,000 to $12,000 price tag in addition to the $1200 annual hosting fee was prohibitive for a small town. Responsive to inquiry from Dr. Stofko, Mrs. Denette noted that the company was headquartered in Pennsylvania.

By-laws & Rules and Procedures

Motion by Mrs. Guinness, seconded by Mr. Pettinelli to approve both the By-laws and the Rules and Procedures as drafted (and revised multiple times). There being no further discussion the Motion adopting both carried unanimously.

Veteran Update

April 29th has been slated as the date for the full day of Gravestone and Monument Preservation workshop with Jon Appel commencing at 9:00 am at the Mount Parnassus Cemetery on Smith Road. Approximately 25 people have committed to attend, which was the target number of people. We are asked to provide buckets, brushes, water and a half yard of ¾" crushed stone.. Facilities Director Don Angersola stated that he will arrange the stone; but it will remain on a trailer so that there is no clean up afterwards and arrange for a water tank. The Veterans will arrange lunch and beverages for the workers. Tents and tables will be available if needed.

Mr. Henson noted that the veterans have ordered a few national flags.

Indian Stone

Mrs. Denette stated that the Stone has been ordered from Crouch & Lagana in Portland for the replacement Indian marker. It could take up to 18 weeks to arrive.

Terms of Office

Both Mrs. Guinness and Mr. Pettinelli's terms expire June 30, 2023. Both expressed a willingness to continue to serve. Mrs. Denette motioned to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that Mr. Pettinelli and Mrs. Guinness be reappointed. Dr. Stofko seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mrs. Denette stated that she would send notice of the action to the Board of Selectmen.

Budget

Mrs. Denette noted that the referendum is scheduled for May 16th.

Audience of Citizens

Nothing noted.

There being no further business to discuss, upon a motion made by Mr. Pettinelli, seconded by Mrs. Denette the Committee adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb Denette