

TOWN OF EAST HADDAM
Cemetery Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2024
Municipal Office Building, Meeting room 3
Via Zoom and YouTube Live

In attendance:

Cemetery Committee Members:

Karl Stofko, Chairman
Crary Brownell, Vice Chairman
Alison Guinness
Richard Pettinelli
Debra Denette, Secretary

Call to Order

Dr. Stofko called the Cemetery Committee to order at 7:00 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes.

Motion by Crary Brownell to accept the minutes of August 15 2024 as amended to note that Mr. Pettinelli was not in attendance. Motion was seconded by Ms. Guinness and carried unanimously.

Reappointment of Members. It was the noted that reappointments of Dr. Stofko Crary Brownell and Debra Denette occurred and documentation regarding said reappointments had been received.

Communications

Deb noted that she checked in with the Selectman's office to see if there were any updates regarding cemetery issues. First Selectman Haines advised that paperwork has been started to acquire the Three Bridges Cemetery. She was also advised that trees at this cemetery are being limbed, rather than removed, to cut costs at this time.

Dr. Stofko stated that the Veterans reset the Asa Havens stone. He noted that the grass is presently knee high. Dr. Stofko also stated that the Mutiny story of Asa Havens will be the subject of a Historical Society November 13th mystery presentation, along with the story of Mark Phillips.

Root trust

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Mrs. Denette advised that the Attorney General has advised that he does not object to the Trustees request to dissolve the interest of cemeteries and other non 501c(3) entities. For the benefit of Mr. Pettinelli, a brief review of the Adelaide Root trust and the benefactors was reviewed. It was noted that Terri Hood has been designated the contact on behalf of Basin Hill Cemetery.

Veteran's Update

It was noted that the Veterans were working at Tater Hill, and have now moved over to Bashan Cemetery. The importance of the work these wonderful people are doing cannot be overstated. THANK YOU CEMETERY TROOPERS.

Three Bridges Cemetery

Discussed under communications.

Old Business

Mark Phillips stone (still missing)

Asa Havens, it was determined that no remains lie below his marker, affirming the belief that Asa was buried at sea. This item can be removed from old business going forward.

Spencer Stones, the replacement stone for Hannah has been reset, the original is housed in the Town garage.

An update is needed regarding the viability for expansion at the Mount Parnassus Cemetery. If it is viable, the Committee should work on getting an estimate to have the property surveyed and costs for installation of a new driveway for the 2025/2026 budget year.

It is also believed that Ackley Cemetery has room to have additional cremation plots established. A drone survey would likely be appropriate as there are not boundary issues.

The next meeting will be held on November 21, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb Denette

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