

Oliver Carter

TOWN CLERK

**EAST HAVEN OLD CEMETERY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 25, 2022**

The East Haven Old Cemetery Board held a regular meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, August 25, 2022 virtually and transacted the following:

Chairperson Robert Sand called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was present.

Present: Commissioners Melanie Johnson, Arlene Hackbarth, Judy Ruggiero, Barbara Buonome and Chairperson Robert Sand.

Absent: Marcia Federico

Approval of Minutes:

Chairperson Sand asked if all in attendance had received and read the minutes from the July 28, 2022 regular meeting and all had. It was asked if there were any corrections, omissions or questions, hearing none, Chairperson Sand asked for a motion to accept minutes as written.

Commissioner Ruggiero made a motion to accept minutes as written. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion to accept minutes as written. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion carried. Minutes from regular July 28, 2022 meeting were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report:

Commissioner Ruggiero stated she paid Fred from Garden of Eden Landscaping \$775.00 on August 9, 2022 for cutting that occurred on July 14, 2022 and July 21, 2022 respectively. Commissioner Ruggiero stated the end balance in the checking account was \$11,207.93.

Chairperson Sand asked if there were any questions, concerns, corrections with the treasurer's report as read. Hearing none, Chairperson Sand asked for a motion to accept treasurer's report as read.

Commissioner Buonome made a motion to accept treasurer's report as read. Commissioner Hackbarth seconded the motion to accept treasurer's report as read. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion carried. Treasurer's Report accepted as read.

Ongoing Project Reports:

Landscaping:

Chairperson Sand had not heard from Fred from Garden of Eden Landscaping. All agree cemetery was looking good considering the lack of rain.

Commissioner Johnson pointed out the weeds around the rim of the Indian Bowl hadn't been cut and were overgrown.

Chairperson Sand stated he would contact Fred and ask for a price to clean up rim of Indian Bowl as well as underbrush located around cemetery. He will also ask Town of East Haven Public Service Dept. if they could perform the clean up to save the Board some money.

Headstone Repair and Restorations:

Headstone repair and restoration projects are on hold as Bedri was away.

Bamboo:

Chairperson Sand stated the bamboo had been cut down 15ft away from the cemetery fence but the root system was not dug up so as to discourage new growth. Chairperson Sand spoke to Town of East Haven Zoning Officer Joseph Budrow concerning this and asked if the homeowner will be taking care of the root system. Mr. Budrow stated he would address this issue with the homeowner.

Retention Wall and Curbing:

Chairperson stated since he was in Town Hall meeting with Mr. Budrow, he went afterwards to the Mayor's Office for updates concerning the wall and curbing since monies for paving and curbing were put into the Town's Capital Improvement budget. The Mayor was unavailable, but Chairperson Sand was introduced to Jamie Cuticello, Director of Administration for the Town of East Haven, who had spoken with the Mayor concerning the wall and curbing. Mr. Cuticello stated the Mayor considered the Old Cemetery a top priority but didn't have any additional information for Chairperson Sand. Chairperson Sand asked Mr. Cuticello if it was possible for the Old Cemetery to added to list for curbing, which would be a part of the money

in the Capital Improvement budget. Mr. Cuticello didn't think that would be a problem to add the curbing to list. Chairperson stated the Board wanted granite curbing as well as a cobblestone entrance to which Mr. Cuticello responded both requests would not be a problem. Mr. Cuticello stated he would be bringing up the Old Cemetery at the next staff meeting and would add the requests concerning the materials to his list. Chairperson Sand state he would check back in the coming week for any updates.

Commissioner Ruggiero stated she spoke to State Representative Joseph Zullo concerning possible State funding for repair of retention wall. Mr. Zullo walked the fence line with Chairperson Sand to get an understanding of what was occurring with the retention wall. Mr. Zullo stated there wasn't State money available for cemeteries that were not in disrepair. Mr. Zullo stated he would write a letter to Congressperson Rosa DeLauro as there may be Federal money available for the cemetery. Chairperson Sand asked Mr. Zullo to write a letter to the Old Cemetery Board detailing why the cemetery would be ineligible for State funding and to send a copy of the letter he would be writing to Congressperson DeLauro. As of this meeting, Chairperson Sand had not received either letter.

Old Business:

Fence Painting: No Report

Boy Scout/Eagle Scout Project: Chairperson Sand had not heard from Ned Taylor leader of Boy Scouts. Chairperson Sand will reach out to Mr. Taylor in the coming weeks.

Bulb Purchase: No Report. Commissioner Hackbarth stated since the squirrels had been busy digging up bulbs around the cemetery, we should limit planting of daffodil bulbs to 100 in order to see how many survive the squirrels and bloom next spring. All agreed with this idea. Chairperson Sand stated he would buy the bulbs, and Commissioners Hackbarth and Johnson volunteered to help plant them.

New Business:

Chairperson Sand discussed the Old Cemetery flyer and would like to set up a 3-member sub-committee to revise the flyer and add information concerning the Indian Bowl that was not mentioned in the flyer. Commissioner Ruggiero researched the history of the Indian Bowl and had information for the flyer. Chairperson Sand asked for volunteers for the sub-committee.

Commissioners Buonome and Ruggiero volunteered with Chairperson Sand appointing Commissioner Federico to round out the sub-committee.

Chairperson Sand asked if there was any other business that needed to be transacted, hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Ruggiero made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion to adjourn. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Gravino, Clerk