

Historic Cemetery Commission Minutes  
Town Hall, Conference Room B  
August 5, 2014  
6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Deron Murphy (Chair), Mary Louise Formisano (Vice-Chair), Jason Beaumier, and Gene Dumas.

Members Absent: Chris Feisthamel.

Staff present: Lea Anthony Hitchen, Assistant Town Planner

Ms. Formisano informed the Commission that there is an official email for the Volunteer Coordinator; that being [egcemeteryvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:egcemeteryvolunteer@gmail.com).

### **Approval of Minutes – June 3, 2014**

Motion by Mr. Beaumier to approve the June 3, 2014 minutes as written.  
Seconded by Mr. Dumas. Approved 4 – 0.

### **HCC Table at August 14<sup>th</sup> Main Street Stroll**

The Commissioners all agreed the upcoming Main Street Stroll would be a great avenue to attract possible volunteers and get the word out about the fall cemetery cleanup.

Ms. Hitchen confirmed she would contact Steve Lombardi at the Chamber of Commerce to get approval for the commission to have a table and would also bring the framed town cemetery map and easel. Mr. Murphy would bring the table and cookies to pass out as the Stroll's theme is Taste of EG.

### **State Cemetery Advisory Representative Report (Alan Clark)**

Mr. Clark was not present; therefore no report. Mr. Dumas relayed that Mr. Clark is interested in creating a “pool of tools” for local RI cemetery commission’s to rent out mechanical equipment for their use.

### **Fall EG Cemetery Cleanup Campaign**

The Commissioners identified the following dates for the cleanup campaign: September 27, 2014, October 18, 2014, November 15, 2014, and December 6, 2014. All cleanups to be held from 9am to noon.

No determination of specific cemeteries for cleanup was decided as it would depend on the number of volunteers who commit on each cleanup event. The Commissioners and Staff did note that Cemetery #72, located to the north of Division Road and most westerly of the two Swedish cemeteries is in need to be mowed/cleaned; this has not been typical in previous years. Additionally, a representative of the Rocky Hill Grange informed Staff that she could recruit volunteers from within and would be interested to have Cemetery #34 cleaned up.

### **Staff Report**

Ms. Hitchen updated the Commission regarding their ability to sell certain power equipment that was received from the School Department – essentially the IT Manager is in the process of putting a policy together for selling equipment and any money from the sales would go in the general fund, not the Historic Cemetery Commission’s budget as intended. Staff reiterated that she and the Planning Director have been pushing vehemently for any money to go towards the Commission’s account considering the Town Council supported the idea of creating a line item for the Cemetery Commission within the Planning Department during the budget approval process.

The Commissioners maintained their intent of following proper protocol for selling the equipment and would hold on to the equipment considering it most likely will not depreciate any further. In the meantime Staff would keep them apprised to any further updates.

Staff is still pursuing a Facebook account for the Commission in order to reach out to as many people through the use of social media.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.