

Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes June 15, 2023

The Cemetery Commission held its monthly Meeting on Thursday June 15, 2023 at 6pm in The Berlin Town Hall located on 240 Kensington Road Berlin CT-Town Managers Conference Room.

In attendance Chairman Charles Colaresi, Riza Bush. Also on hand Alternate Commission Member Andra Lou Millerd, Assistant Town Clerk Lisa Bush and Steven Wood (Superintendent of Public Grounds) **Excused** was Commissioners Dick Benson, Stephen Pastuszak and Ed Hornkohl

Meeting was called to Order by Chairman Charles Colaresi at 600 pm

There were no citizens to address the Commission.

Chairman Colaresi requested a motion to seat alternate Commissioner Andra Millerd for excused Commission members. The motion was made by Commissioner Riza Brown and seconded by Chairman Charles Colaresi. The Commission now had a quorum.

Motion to accept the minutes from May 18, 2023 meeting as submitted was made by Commissioner Riza Brown and Seconded by Commissioner Andra Millerd. All were in favor.

Public Grounds Report- Steve Wood reported to the group that the last section of fencing at Beckley Cemetery has gone up. Grounds workers have sprayed back to the property line. An old section of fencing at Wilcox Cemetery has been repainted, and all the cemeteries are looking great.

Mr Wood shared with the commission, compliments given by surrounding neighbors. A question was raised about West lane cemetery, but as that property is privately owned, there is nothing the town can do to clean up the neglect. But there is no comparison between the town properties and West Lane.

Commissioner Andra Millerd stated the some citizens had complained about some 'trees' at Beckley needing to be trimmed back. After a discussion, it was determined by Mr Wood that this complaint may be an 'older' ones as any tree trimming has all been completed and all properties look great.

Old Business- As 'Beyond the Gravestone' as started into working on the Towns cemeteries, Chairman Colaresi asked Commissioner Riza Brown if there are pictures being taken to show the before and after progress. It is his hope to create a presentation for the Commission, so that at the proper time, the commission as a whole, can present its accomplishments to the Town Council. Chairman Colaresi wants to share with the Council and the public the result of taxpayer investment.

New Buisness Chaiman Colaresi remarked he hoped that as 'Beyond the Gravestones' continue to work on Ledge cemetery, then onto Dennison Cemetery then onto Dunham cemetery. Commissioner Millerd asked if commissioners can go out and see the work.

Chairman Colaresi stated approximately 16 stones at Ledge have been repaired and impressed at how diligent 'Beyond' is at their work. As July 1 approaches and the new budget goes into effect, there will be additional funds to complete the projects. Steve Wood brought to the commission that signage at each cemetery is being mounted onto the gates as opposed to free standing signage. It is a cleaner look and all the properties will be uniform.

Steve Wood asked the commission to be excused for the July and August meetings.

Motion to adjourn at 608pm was made by Commissioner Riza Brown and seconded by Commissioner Andra Millerd. All were in favor

Minutes submitted by
Joan Veley, Recording Secretary
Cemetery Commission

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Katryn J Wall

BERLIN, CT.