

Essex Cemetery Commission  
Public Meeting Minutes (Draft to be approved)  
June 22, 2021

Location: Essex Town Offices

Members Present: Elaine Strunk, Joan Janzen,  
Joseph Teegarden, Sue Brown  
Jenny Willingham, Town Administration Representative  
Absent: Bob Covey, Sexton

Meeting called to order 10:05 am

1. There were no members of the public present.
2. Minutes of May 2021 meeting were approved and accepted.
3. Update on Common Burial Ground:
  - Jenny, Elaine and Joe had attended the DAR Award ceremony on Sat. Jenny has the certificate from the DAR, which she is having framed to hang in the Town Office. She circulated the letters and paperwork from the DAR accompanying the award. The event was well-attended. Dawn Hill-Fleury, Select Board member, was there as well as Jenny Willingham from the Town Offices staff.
  - Update on the engraving project was tabled until next meeting as there was nothing new to report.
  - Sue reported that Eric Bianchi had called about two additional fallen stones he had fixed prior to the DAR ceremony and concern about how to prevent problems in the future. Joe and Jenny described noticing another stone that was down on Sat. The CC are having the latch fixed on the west gate to discourage using the CBG as a short cut. Joe is going to take a look at the latch to see if he can fix it. Sue will contact Eric about the fallen stone and sending Jenny an estimate for it's repair. It is hoped

that these fallen stones are coincidental, not a result of vandalism. We will keep an eye on this issue, however.

4. MVC update:

- Elaine reported that the flags had arrived and been placed on veterans' graves in both cemeteries. She will follow up with the The Flag Shop which has not sent out their bill to Jenny.
- Jenny reported (1) that there is a red ant problem at MVC. She has received a couple of complaints. Jenny will contact Parks & Rec for assistance dealing with it and to spread the topsoil which was delivered. (2) that there is about \$1000 left in the current budget to spend before 6/30. She suggested installing row signs in the new section which we all agreed to and will follow up with in the next week. (4) that, due to the increase in cornerstone costs, the CC will pay the difference (\$100) for those who purchased them last year. (5) that she had made a photocopy of the original Burials Register for the CC and Town records and given the original to the Essex Historical Society to care for.
- Jenny reported also that there are 3 burials coming up and she has sold 3 lots in the past month. She has a meeting set up with Tom, Town Maintenance, about repairs and painting. Of the MVC out building.

5. Next meeting: Tues., Aug. 17, 10 am at the Town Offices

6. Meeting closed 11:32 am.

Submitted by Sue Brown, 6/27/21

