

**EAST HAVEN
OLD CEMETERY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 26, 2013**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Carmel Antonucci
Marcia Federico
Barbara Buonome
Judy Ruggiero
William Jackson, Chair

MEMBERS ABSENT

Peggy Thomas
Jim Saccavino

Guests: Wendy
Barbara
David

1. **Call to Order:** Bill Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Marcia made a motion to accept the minutes of August 29, 2013; seconded by Carmel. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Six hundred dollars (\$600.00) was paid to B&R Landscaping for two cuts and trims. The new **Balance** is **\$10,048.99**. Carmel made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report; seconded by Marcia. All in favor, motion carried.
4. **Old Business:** The Old Cemetery Board received notification that a new contract is not needed for B&R Landscaping. They have a two year option and as long as the contract terms remain the same, no new contract is required.

Judy took pictures of the old Bishop's Family Stone located in The Old Cemetery. Mr. Bishop was the founder of Guilford, Connecticut. There was some question as to why he was buried in East Haven and not Guilford, CT. It seems he is the father and related to everyone buried in that plot at The Old Cemetery.

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The statements and bank books for The Old Cemetery were audited by Sal Maltese. Everything balanced out to the penny. A copy of the audit is attached to this month's meeting minutes.

Judy inquired as to whether or not Bill had been contacted by the attorney from Essex again, and he said he had not heard anything from the lawyer as yet.

5. **New Business:** The Old Cemetery Board had three guests at the September meeting. Wendy Bellmore from The Christ and The Epiphany Church and Barbara and David from The East Haven Historical Society were in attendance as well. In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the church, Wendy was proposing a cemetery walk as a recurring event through The Old Cemetery. She has already met with the members of The East Haven Historical Society and wanted to present this proposal to The Old Cemetery Board.

Christ Church (formerly on Main Street), Epiphany Church (Forbes Avenue) and St. Mark's Mission in Momauguin were merged to form The Christ of the Epiphany Church on the East Haven town green. The building was consecrated in 1964. For 2013, the church was planning a Cemetery Walk on All Souls day, Sunday, November 3rd at 3:00 p.m. Three stations are planned. Each station will have a prepared Docent to provide information of interest. The Docent will speak 5-15 minutes on the subject of that particular station. The Church would like to continue visiting The Old Cemetery on a quarterly basis where the community could come together and learn more about the older residents who are buried there and their legacy. The church is working with the Historical Society to obtain historical information regarding these figures as well as from family and friends of parishioners that are buried there. A gravesite visit to Father Budding, a former and much loved parish priest and a visit to a parish member lost this year would be on the agenda for the November 3rd cemetery walk. This walk would be conducted very much like The Sympathy Tea the Old Cemetery held a few years back. Wendy asked if anyone from The Old Cemetery would be interested in volunteering to be a part of this project.

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She also wanted to know if there was a plot plan available for The Old Cemetery showing names and where people were buried. Although, Bill has a list of names of all the people buried there in a Blue Book, no formal plot plan is available at this time. Bill did start a plot plan of one section of the cemetery, but much more is needed to be done.

Will Henley, an eagle scout, was supposed to have completed this project for his badge, but no paperwork was submitted to the board as yet and no one has been able to get in touch with him. Wendy still sits on The Eagle Scout Board and said she would try to find out who his advisor was and if any information was done regarding The Old Cemetery project.

David, a member of the Historical Society, was also working with Ned Taylor, the scout leader, to possibly recruit other boy scouts to continue or start this project. The goal is to someday have a complete list of names, data (sections and lot numbers) and a plot map for everyone buried at The Old Cemetery.

Wendy Bellmore thanked the board and asked anyone interested in becoming more involved in this cemetery walk to please contact her at 203-215-1803.

Marcia planted flowers in the pots at The Old Cemetery and Bill replaced two flags so far this year.

The Board discussed possible fundraisers. They talked about putting a coupon in The East Haven Courier requesting donations for the preservation of The Old Cemetery. A sample flyer is attached. There was also a suggestion about Chili's Restaurant and having a fundraiser held there. A percentage of meals bought there on a particular night would be donated to The Old Cemetery. There would be no overhead other than advertising for the date of the event. Barbara would try to contact Chili's and find out more of what particulars were involved in setting up this event.

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6. **Adjournment:** Judy made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.; seconded by Marcia. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectively Submitted,

Lorene Russell
Board Clerk