

**EAST HAVEN  
OLD CEMETERY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 28, 2019**

A Regular Meeting of the Old Cemetery Board was held on Thursday March 28, 2019 in the Mario Giamo Conference Room, Lower Level, Town Hall, 250 Main Street, East Haven at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of the following:

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm by Chairman Bill Jackson. In attendance were Chairman Bill Jackson, Judy Ruggiero, Barbara Buonome, Marcia Federico, and Melanie Johnson . Absent were James Saccavino and Dan McCann

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The Board did not have the last minutes available due to length of no quorum. Tabled.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Judy Ruggiero stated that as of last meeting on October 25, 2018 the balance was \$13,677.75. Since she has made the following payments:

10/25/18 – to Barbara Buonome for 2 potted mums for the front gates at the old cemetery - \$21.25

1/1/19 – to Garden of Eden \$1450.00 – which consisted of a last mow in October @362.50 and in November 3 fall clean-ups @362.50 each.

1/19/19 – to Judy Ruggiero of \$55.99 for reimbursement of wreath on the gates at old cemetery.

On March 16, 2019 Judy received a donation from George Cortes towards stone restoration of \$15.00. The balance to date in the checking is now at \$12,165.49

Marcia made a motion to accept the treasurers 'report. Barbara seconded. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

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**4. Old Business**

Judy states that our committee approved an extra \$25.00 per cut to Garden of Eden on November 29, 2018 which raised the price from \$362.50 to \$387.50 but when she received invoice #1359, Fred charged the new price on the October mowing & November Fall clean-up. Judy wrote a letter to clarify that the amount should have been \$1550.00 not \$1450.00 as they did not approve the new rate until November.

To Judy's knowledge the town has not trimmed back the branches from the trees hanging over the fence on the Hemmingway Avenue side. Bill states he has spoken with the town about this a couple of times and nothing has been done as of yet, hopefully this will be done before spring. Bill will follow up again to ask for the branches to be cut again.

Judy states that due to the bad weather and snow Benny the mason has not repaired the 4 stones that we were to pay him the \$1,000 dollars for. Judy is assuming is that this is the reason he hasn't completed the stones done at no charge for community service as well. The cement clumps on the back side of these stones were to be filed down or put braces on to hold them together. Judy will not be paying him until he has completed the work. Benny said he will call me when they are done she has not heard from him.

Marcia and Barbara walked the Old Cemetery grounds and Fred Faulkner (the landscaper) reported lots of branches down on 1/16/19 – Fred went with his crew on 1/17 to pick up all the branches etc., and he did not charge us for that work done.

**5. New Business**

Judy received a phone call on 3/25 from John who lived on Florida but was raised in West Haven. He still gets papers from the Courier & Register to stay in touch. He saw where the Old Cemetery is looking for donations and could Judy tell him a little about it and what they do with the donations, where it is located etc. He will be in West Haven in May and would like to come by and see it. He said his papers are quite old and did not know if there was a time limit to give a donation. Judy stated they take donations of any amount at any time. Judy told John that the mason we have needs to do at least \$1,000 worth of work before he will come out for

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us to make it beneficial to him. Then Judy told him about the Old Cemetery that it dates back to the early 1700's and holds the history of East Haven there. Judy thanked him for his interest.

Bob Parente passed on a new idea for a fund raiser; Have a documentary movie made of the old stones and history of the cemetery to either sell or show somewhere. Judy suggests that Bill Jackson would be great at this as he is the historian.

Bob Sands made a suggestion for them to contact the U.I. and have them install a spot light on the pole directing the light at the gates. It is a historical site so it should be ok with them. Marcia said she will contact the U.I. to see if it could be done.

Bob Parente showed me the sign that is tarnished on the left side off the stone column by the gate. He offered to clean and polish it for us. I told him I would bring it up at our next committee meeting. Judy consults the board on this suggestion. All were in agreement.

Fred Faulkner called on 3/20 and said there is a lot of storm damage at the Old Cemetery to call him about it and also needs to talk about his contract. I called him and said I would have to look at it and get back to him about it as she cannot discuss it at this time and it has to go out to bid this year. Judy discusses this with the board and they all agree that the storm damage is part of his contract to clean that up. On 3/28 Judy saw the storm damage and called him back and left him a voice message to the effect that anything that is on the ground; trees, braches, limbs etc., he is responsible for. Judy told him that it looks like you have your work cut out for you, so feel free to start anytime.

Bill is concerned about getting enough flags this year to place at the Old Cemetery for Memorial Day. The Legion has none to give for this year. Next year he will be all set for flags as when East Lawn Cemetery picks up the flags he will save them for Bill. Marcia and Barbara stated that they will keep an eye out at Stop and Shop to pick up the flags for Bill to put out.

Barbara stated that the East Haven Rotary is celebrating their 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary and that they are erecting a 4 sided bases clock at the East Haven Library. The rotary will be selling sponsor space on the base of the clock at \$250 each with giving a 25 letter space. They are looking for sponsors for the clock. Barbara is asking the board if they would like to put their board on this

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base. She will bring literature to the next meeting to review and they can decide at the next meeting. Melanie suggests that she bring it up at the historical society as well.

Bills states that it is election time for the board:

Chairman – Judy nominates Bill Jackson for Chairman – Barbara seconds. All in Favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer – Marcia nominates Judy – Barbara seconds the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.

Vice Chair - - Marcia nominates Melanie. Barbara seconds. All in Favor. Motion carried.

**6. Adjournment**

Judy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 pm. Melanie seconded. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Temple Smith, OCB Clerk**