

EASTON CEMETERY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

7:00 PM

Library Conference Room

Minutes

Present: Elizabeth Bryce, Nanette DeWester, Mike Howard, Joan Kirk Deirdre Pres, Frank Pagliaro, Jamie Weinstein

Meeting was called to order by Chairwoman, Nanette at 7:00 PM.

Our new member, Mike Howard was sworn in and welcomed as an adjunct member.

1. Review and approve minutes from the meeting in November 2021
Minutes approved as submitted (Frank/Jamie)
2. Update on Cemeteries
Gary Haines has been fixing stones and working on the cemetery post for the gate to Center Street Cemetery.
3. Budget Update
Obtain sources of revenue for the cemetery maintenance in the future; ie establish fundraisers, write grants.
Follow-up on obtaining the neglected cemetery grant from the state every 2 years.
Reviewed Annual Report (see attached).
4. Planning part 2
Discussion regarding adding other elected members ie. a Treasurer.
Jamie presented a 3 year plan. (See Attached)
Create a vision statement.
5. Other business
We will be meeting every second Wednesday in 2022 in the Library Conference Room at 7:00PM. There will be not meeting in January and February. (See attached).

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM (Frank/Jamie).

Submitted by,

Joan Kirk

EASTON CEMETERY COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2019– June 30, 2020

The Cemetery Committee's restoration and maintenance goals were successfully met with the help of a small group of dedicated volunteers. During the 2019-2020 fiscal year we held five workdays in Gilbertown, Lyon and Center Street cemeteries with a team of trained volunteers from last year's pool of workers.

The tasks accomplished during our work days this fiscal year were; applied D2 biological cleaning solution to all the tombstones at Center Street Cemetery not including the 96 that were treated in the previous year. A second application was made on the heavier soiled tombstones of the 96 that were previously treated. Applied D2 biological cleaning solution to all the tombstones at Gilbertown Cemetery not including the 15 that were treated in the previous year. A second application was made on the heavier soiled tombstones of the 15 that were previously treated. Also, applied D2 biological cleaning solution to all the tombstones at Lyon Cemetery.

The Committee's current restoration and maintenance goals are focused in the following areas:

1. Reset headstones that are leaning in our cemeteries;
2. Install in new fabricated bases all headstones that have broken below ground level and are too short to be reset;
3. Repair with epoxy, the remaining headstones that have broken above ground level;
4. Reset footstones in Gilbertown, Center and Lyon Cemeteries;
5. Maintain any brush and tree growth that is encroaching upon the perimeter of all cemeteries.
6. Apply D2 biological cleaning solution to tombstones.

Other Committee accomplishments not aforementioned:

1. Provided consistent landscape maintenance and leaf/debris removal at Lyon cemetery.
2. The one half of the remaining wrought iron double swing gate at the entrance to Center Street Cemetery was brought to the shop to be sandblasted, primed and painted.
3. The planning of the Eagle Scout kiosk project that was installed at Gilbertown Cemetery.
4. The editing of the cemetery brochures.

As of March 28, 2020, former Committee Chairman, Gary Haines retired and now resides in Newtown. Nanette DeWester is now the Committee Chairwoman.

The Committee would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to all the volunteers who have dedicated their time to maintaining our town's cemeteries.

Prepared by Gary Haines, Nanette DeWester and Phillip Doremus

EASTON CEMETERY COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2020 — June 30, 2021

The Cemetery Committee's restoration, maintenance, and engagement goals were successfully met with the help new committee members and contractor support as needed. During the 2020-2021 fiscal year the tasks accomplished were:

Center Street Cemetery

Cleaned cemetery sign, gravestones with D2 solution, cleaned bench, provided consistent landscape maintenance and leaf /debris removal as needed, cleaned memorial plaque at potters field gravesite and site area, maintained the Fanton Family grave area and reset Fanton boundary stones. Removed and replaced bases for the Freeborn family stones and rebuilt the foundation. Dug up and reset the husband/wife stones in the Hill Family plot. Reset the MR Rowell stone, dug out the Mother and Father Rowell stones. Historic Center Street gate was repaired and the post set for spring installation at the memorial gravesite.

Gilbertown Cemetery

Cleaned cemetery sign, provided consistent landscape maintenance and leaf /debris removal as needed, planned the removal of dead dogwood trees on 58, reset Lavinia Scott's gravestone, cleaned, repaired the Jennings' tombstone and re-epoxied, dug up the Perry gravestone to reset a new base, and, applied D2 cleaning solution to the backs and edges of all tombstones at Gilbertown.

Lyon Cemetery

Cleaned sign, provided consistent landscape maintenance and leaf /debris removal as needed.

The Committee's current restoration and maintenance goals are focused in the following areas:

1. Reset headstones that are leaning in our cemeteries;
2. Install in new fabricated bases all headstones that have broken below ground level and are too short to be reset;
3. Repair with epoxy, the remaining headstones that have broken above ground level;
4. Reset footstones in Gilbertown, Center, and Lyon Cemeteries;
5. Maintain any brush and tree growth that is encroaching upon the perimeter of all cemeteries.
6. Apply D2 biological cleaning solution to tombstones.

Committee Engagement Accomplishments:

1. Three tours given (and recorded) of Gilbertown, Center Street, and Lyon Cemetery by committee member Frank Pagliaro to increase awareness, education, and promote community engagement.
2. Cross-organizational partnerships were developed to increase collaboration with; the Easton Garden Club (to collaborate on property design and beautification initiatives), the Historical Society of Easton (to foster research and education of the historic cemeteries), the Easton Courier (to increase outreach opportunities and promote community awareness by writing articles and participating on the launch of a new podcast), and the 175th Anniversary Committee (to celebrate Easton's anniversary, legacy, and build community connections).
3. A Strategic Planning process was kicked off and hosted by committee members Jamie Weinstein and Deirdra Preis. The process will aid the committee in goal setting, budgeting, resource management, and choosing short and long term objectives that are relevant to our mission and vision. It will empower the committee's work to not only preserve and maintain our historic cemeteries but also to foster engagement ensuring that the cemeteries are a *living* memorial that honors our past while serving the present and future of Easton.

Committee Members are Nanette DeWester, Chair, Frank Pagliaro, Deirdra Preis, Jamie Weinstein, Elizabeth Boyce, and Michael Howard, and, Joan Kirk Secretary.

Joan Kirk

From: Jamie Weinstein <jamie.weinstein@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 9, 2021 10:43 AM
To: Deirdra Preis; EBoyceCemeteryCommittee; fpagliarocemeterycommittee@gmail.com; mmhthg@aol.com; Joan Kirk; eastonctcemetery@yahoo.com
Subject: Action Items to support the draft vision statement - From 12/8/21 meeting

All,

This is the documented action list we came up with to support our 3 year plan as we discussed last night. This is not set in stone so if you think of anything else, let me know and we'll add it to the list.

There were three major buckets from our draft vision statement and each action item supports one or more of them. The three buckets were:

- A. Educational and Community Outreach
- B. Preservation and Maintenance
- C. Committee Sustainability

Here is the list of actionable items for our 3 year plan with the bucket(s) they belong to:

1. Cemetery Tours (A)
2. Digitizing all headstones (A, B, C)
3. Biographical profiles of selected internments (A)
4. Historic themed scavenger hunts (A)
5. Cleanup Days (A, B)
6. Maintenance Training for Committee Members (Field Trips?) (C)
7. Field Trips for schools and other school outreach activities (A, C)
8. T-Shirt Fundraiser (A, C)
9. Halloween Fundraiser (A, C)
10. Day of the Dead Fundraiser (A, C)
11. Investigate Union Cemetery (B, C)
12. Sponsor Conferences (A, B)
13. Form a plan for Den Road (A, B)
14. Create Reflection Spaces and plan for them (A, B)
15. Educate on Death and Dying (Cultural mores, taboos, etc..) (A)

Items in Bucket A (Educational and Community Outreach) - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 (13 of 15 items)

Items in Bucket B (Preservation and Maintenance) - 2, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14 (6 of 15 items)

Items in Bucket C (Committee Sustainability) - 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 (7 of 15 items)

-Jamie Weinstein

Easton Cemetery Committee 2022 Meeting Dates
Second Wednesday of the month
Library Conference Room
7:00 PM

Not meeting in January or February

March 9
April 13
May 11
June 8
July 13
August 10
September 14
October 12
November 9
December 14