



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway  
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

## Cemetery Committee Meeting Minutes

Chairperson  
Sheila Godino

### Regular Meeting

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Tuesday, June 13, 2023

4:00 PM

Council Chambers - Hybrid Format

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Godiono called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

#### II. ROLL CALL

**Present** Chairman Sheila M. Godino  
Committee Member Vincent Godino  
Committee Member Jessica Staley  
Alternate Member Martha Reynolds  
Alternate Member Paul Krug  
Committee Member William Vidal III  
**Absent** Committee Member Kimlyn Marshall

Martha Reynolds was late.

#### III. APPOINTMENTS OF ALTERNATES

Martha Reynolds and Paul Krug were appointed as voting members.

#### IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE the regular Meeting Minutes from April 11, 2023, as written.

Martha Reynolds was not present for the vote.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Vincent Godino

**SECONDER:** Jessica Staley

**AYE** 5 Godino Godino Staley Krug Vidal, III

**EXCUSED** 1 Reynolds

**ABSENT** 1 Marshall

#### V. FISCAL REPORTS

1. Fiscal Report.

All of the remaining funds from this fiscal year have been spent.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

## **VI. COMMITTEES**

### **1. Flags - Ms. Godino.**

The remaining funds of the fiscal year were spent on additional flags.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

### **2. Adopters - Mr. Godino.**

The Allen Spicer adopters are no longer physically able to continue with the maintenance. Mr. Godino recommended this cemetery be added to the maintenance list.

The Ezekial Grey adopters are no longer physically able to continue with the maintenance. Mr. Godino met a couple at the Nathan Lester Open House who have graciously cleaned up the cemetery and will continue with the maintenance.

The Episcopal Church cemetery was observed to be in bad shape. Mr. Geer cleared most and the cemetery was cleaned by the same couple who took over the maintenance of the Ezekial Grey Cemetery.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

### **3. Veterans - Ms. Reynolds.**

Martha Reynolds presented three newspaper clippings.

Chairperson Godino stated the date and name of the newspaper should be included.

Ms. Staley asked who specifically the clippings should be for? Chairman Godino answered for Veterans who are buried in Ledyard.

Question - is Smith Lake Cemetery in Groton or Ledyard? Chairman Godino will research this question.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. R.O.W.**

There is no right of way for Bellows Cemetery in place. The owner doesn't want anyone entering his property. There may be a legal right of way which the Town can acquire to maintain the cemetery for historical purposes only. It is important that the Cemetery Committee be included in the town's new development process to ensure the cemeteries are provided with adequate access roads.

The Committee continues to have an issue when trying to maintain Cemeteries that don't have easements. This is an issue to bring up with the Town Council.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

2. May Flagging results - Ms. Staley.

Chairperson Godino said the flagging went very well thanks to Ms. Staley for bringing in additional assistance from the VFW. They were very helpful. Each child was paired with an adult which helped the overall project operate smoothly.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

3. Results of the individual Cemeteries.

Nehemiah Smith cemetery - Ms. Stanley reported it is near a Christmas tree farm and difficult to find.

Fanning has 3 Veterans markers.

Lathan Hallet - At the end of Shewville Road. The cemetery is surrounded by stone walls. Inside there is a square made of cement posts and metal piping. Ms. Reynolds said this square area is the Hallet cemetery within the Latham cemetery. There is only one Veteran flag and it is contained within the Hallet cemetery. There are four rows of graves. The front two rows are clear but the last two rows have several bittersweet vines growing very close to the graves. There are some fallen gravestones.

Gallup Cemetery has a heavy black key lock at the entrance. There are approximately ten, 10' tall dogwoods planted at the entrance of the cemetery. The middle section has an open field area with several fallen branches, some are large. The area in the back where the graves are looks fine.

Christopher Avery has a latch which requires repair. Mr. Godino talked with the adopter to work on the issues.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

4. Any other Old Business to Come Before the Committee.

None.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Possible book improvements.

Mr. Vidal suggested redoing the book to include directions (starting from the Ledyard Congregational Church), location, pictures, and Veterans names if any. Ms. Staley suggested including pictures of landmarks or house numbers to make the cemeteries easier to find. The completed books can be given to the Committee members and to the Town Libraries.

Motion to APPROVE updating the Cemetery book to include directions, location, pictures, Veterans names and any other pertinent information.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Jessica Staley

**SECONDER:** Sheila M. Godino

**AYE** 6 Godino Godino Staley Reynolds Krug Vidal, III

**ABSENT** 1 Marshall

2. Any other New Business to Come Before the Committee.

Chairperson Godino shared the metal Veterans markers previously used by the Committee. The price for those markers increased dramatically and aluminum replacements were purchased. The aluminum ones are good but not the same quality as the metal ones. Chairperson Godino suggested working with the High School to have molds made of the markers and requesting that they make five markers a year. The other idea is to see if ones that are damaged can be repaired.

Mr. Godino asked if someone could rethread the old sticks for the markers. Ms. Staley said she could do it for the time being. There are also medallions and rods that are broken. Ms. Staley said she can ask co-workers who work with metal if they have the proper tools to do the repairs. She will let the Committee know at the next meeting.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 5:13 p.m.

A motion was made by Committee Member Staley, seconded by Alternate Member Reynolds, that this be Approved and so declared. The motion carried by the following vote:

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Jessica Staley

**SECONDER:** Martha Reynolds

**AYE** 6 Godino Godino Staley Reynolds Krug Vidal, III

**ABSENT** 1 Marshall

Next meeting - October 10, 2023, 4:00 p.m. Town Hall Annex - Hybrid.

**DISCLAIMER:** Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.