

Essex Town Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2026

11:00am

Essex Town Clerk's Office

All members in attendance including Adrian from Town of Essex

Agenda items discussed:

- Call to Order-11:05 am
- Public Comment-none
- Approval of July 15, 2026 and June 24, 2026 Minutes – both approved with no comments
- FY27 Budget Review – Joe T reviewed the new budget numbers with trustee account, voter approved and proposed expenses, with proposed and YTD totals for all 3 – Caroline asked about YTD interest and none has been received yet since July 1 new budget
- Sexton Report-Caroline read the Sexton report just as Ever was joining, Liz asked about approval of stone bench and Ever explained it was in place of a monument, no other questions
- Cemetery Actions to Consider
 - Stone Repair in ECBG with VOCA– Joe received approval of surepak storage from the church and we received permission to have volunteers with sign in sheet and signed waiver to be kept on file
 - TO DO:
 - Ever to create poster and circulate to Joe for agreement-
 - Caroline will work with Tammy Gretchal on public outreach to include
 - Newsletter and email blurb (to mimic poster verbiage)
 - Facebook page and Facebook event-also using same verbiage
 - Members to do individual outreach using all posters, email etc once created
 - Members can post to front porch forums using same verbiage
 - Motion was put forward by Liz to utilize voter approved funds not to exceed \$750 for ECBG day, seconded by Caroline
 - Caroline will follow up with VOCA to confirm date and supplies needed
 - Supplies for event to include

- Surepak -quote needed, check with John Leo
 - Refreshments will be provided
 - Water, granola bars etc
 - Members and volunteers will be asked to bring
 - Wheel barrows
 - Shovels and rakes
 - Gloves
 - Purchase D2 for stone cleaning and ask VOCA what supplies are needed for this (wire brushed etc)
 - Sue shared pictures of stone in ECB that Eric Bianci fixed and we agreed to discuss with VOCA if they could be done differently, comments were made regarding appearance of the finished product
 - Tree/Shrub/Stump Removal in MVC-Joe reviewed the 3 quotes 2 of which could not provide adequate service to keep the stones in tack, the only quote viable is Heritage which was \$2,800 for all stumps, motion was approved to proceed with project.
 - Sue suggested that we provide updates to the public of projects taking place, we agreed and this will be discussed further
 - Columbarium Upgrade-Caroline reviewed the quote from L&D and some portions could be done without 2 other quotes but not complete reno. Landscaping was discussed and issue was tabled until we decide what we want to do with that area, grass or native plants were discussed rather than redoing stone and having to maintain. No sales in quite some time - TBD
- Community Day-Liz updated us on ideas she had and Jen will f/u about location – confirmed via email they do not reserve spots but we can save spot next to us for historical society
 - Next Meeting : Sept 9, 2026 - 11:00am
 - Adjourn approx 12:20pm