

**HILL WEST CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
Montgomery, Vermont**

Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting

Held at 7:00pm on Wednesday, 27 June 2017
Home of Titus & Jane Presler
2534 Hill West Road, Montgomery

Formal actions of the meeting are noted in italics.

The meeting was called to order at about 7:15pm by President Jeffrey Jewett.

Members Present: Jeffrey Jewett, Wayne Jewett, Titus Presler, Kathy King, Irene Jewett, Earl Lumbra, Nancy Lumbra, Joanne Bennett, Sheila Jewett Dragon.

Clerk's Report:

- Clerk Titus Presler presented the minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting, held on 27 June 2017, and the Special Meeting held on 19 September 2017, at which the revised Bylaws and Rules were finalized and approved. *The minutes of both meetings were approved as presented.*
- The Montgomery Memorial Day observance was to be held at Hill West Cemetery on Sunday, May 27, and the Clerk had been asked to offer remarks on the occasion.
- The Membership List was circulated for corrections and updating.

President's Report: President Jeffery Jewett said that he had been keeping up with members through telephone calls. He reported that one lot had been sold to the Feldman family for the burial of Stan Feldman of Creamery Bridge Road.

Treasurer's Report: For income over the previous 12 months, Treasurer Nancy Lumbra reported a beginning balance of \$1,010.25; deposits of dues and donations of \$593.00; interest of \$82.78; and \$150 from the Town of Montgomery, for a total income of \$1,836.03. Expenses were \$450 for maintenance and \$120 for corner markers for one grave, for an expense total of \$570.00. There was a balance of \$1,266.03 of income over expenses. For the savings account she reported a beginning balance of \$800.82, to which was added \$875.00 in donations and lot sale and \$0.30 in interest, for an ending balance of \$1,676.12. The certificate of deposit held \$16,564.36, with a four-year maturity date of 25 July 2019. *The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.*

Elections:

- The 2017 Bylaws state that the four officers will serve staggered two-year terms, the President & Clerk on one schedule, the Vice President & Treasurer on the other. This being the first election on this new system, the President & Clerk were to be elected for two years, and the Vice President & Treasurer for one year. Then the VP & Treasurer will be elected for two years next year, in 2019.

- *The following were elected, and in all cases these were unanimous re-elections:*
 - President – for 2 years – Jefferey Jewett*
 - Vice President – for 1 year – Earl Lumbra*
 - Clerk – for 2 years – Titus Presler*
 - Treasurer – for 1 year – Nancy Lumbra*
 - Trustees – for 1 year – Wayne Jewett, Gary Jewett, Early Lumbra, Michael Jewett, Nancy Lumbra, Titus Presler*

Proposed Consolidation of Montgomery Cemeteries:

- It was noted that the 2017 Montgomery Town Meeting considered Article 10: “Shall the Town direct the Selectboard to investigate the consolidation of all Cemetery Commissions into one general Commission with oversight of all town owned cemeteries?” and that the Town Meeting had voted in the affirmative.
- It was noted that the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Hill West Cemetery Association had discussed possible consolidation and had formally voted against it. One reason was that in the distant past the cemetery had been neglected by the town and was renovated only by the group that then formed or became active in the Hill West Cemetery Association. Another reason cited was that the current system was working well for Hill West and that there appeared to be no problems that would be rectified by a consolidated cemetery commission. In 2017 association stated that it understood clearly that the cemetery is owned by the town and that the association manages the cemetery only on behalf of the town.
- Opposition to consolidation was reiterated at this meeting. There was discussion of the options of leasing the cemetery from the town or exploring incorporation, but there was no clear decision about these options.

Other Business:

- Roadside Cemetery Sign – It was agreed that the sign needs renovation. Sheila Jewett Dragoon agreed to explore possibilities.
- With reference to recent incidents, it was emphasized that plantings are not allowed and that flowers should be in removable pots.
- Dues were received by the Treasurer.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:30pm. Refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,



Titus L. Presler, Clerk