

**HILL WEST CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
Montgomery, Vermont**

Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting

Held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 24 July 2024
Conference Room, Montgomery Public Service Building

Formal actions of the meeting are noted in italics.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Jeffrey Jewett.

Persons Present: Nine persons attended: Officers: President Jeffrey Jewett, Vice President Kathryn King, Clerk Titus Presler, Treasurer Nancy Lumbra. Members: Patrick Calecas, Kathryn King, Howard King, Ronald Lawyer, Stephen Rivers. The president declared a quorum to be present.

Clerk's Report:

- Clerk Titus Presler presented and reviewed the minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting, held Wednesday, 26 July 2023.
- The Membership List was circulated for corrections and updating.

President's Report: President Jeff Jewett reported that one lot had been sold over the past year. He said the mowings had gone well, and Earl Lumbra noted that the cemetery looked good on Memorial Day. Jeff said a bush and a tree were due for removal. In response to a question he said that the current price for a lot is \$600, which includes the corner stones.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Nancy Lumbra reported as follows:

Checking balances as of 1/1/24: \$2,303.47

Checking Income: Interest \$4.50 + Town Mowings \$200 = Total \$204.50.

Savings Income: Donations \$50

Disbursements: 5 Mowings @ \$100 = \$500

Current Balances as of 7/24/24:

Checking \$2,007.07 + Savings \$2,108.71 + CD \$18,000 = \$22,116.68

The maturity date for the Certificate of Deposit is 5 August 2024

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented, with Titus making the motion and Patrick Calecas seconding it.

Nancy raised the question of which bank the Association should use in light of the fact that HWCA's current bank, TD Bank, is closing their Enosburg branch. Several possible banks were mentioned, and discussion ensued.

Nancy Lumbra moved that the Hill West Cemetery Association engage the services of Community National Bank and move its account there, and Ronald Lawyer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Nancy raised the question of the disposition of the Certificate of Deposit, which matures on 5 August 2024.

Patrick Calecas moved that a Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$18,000 be arranged at Community National Bank, with the term of the CD to be determined through the Treasurer's negotiation with the bank, and Stephen Rivers seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

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.

Kathryn King stated that she preferred not to stand for reelection as Vice President. Her service was acknowledged with thanks.

The following were elected by unanimous votes:

Vice President – for 2 years – Patrick Calecas

Treasurer – for 2 years – Nancy Lumbr

*Trustees – each for 1 year – Gary Jewett, Earl Lumbr, Nancy Lumbr,
Titus Presler, Amy Godfrey, Kathryn King, Stephen Rivers*

Other Business

- Digging for Cremains Burial – Ronald raised the question whether people should be permitted to dig their own holes for burying cremains. He said that a professional has the experience and equipment to probe burial sites to ensure that there are not other remains below the surface. It was agreed that such digging must be done by a professional and that Jeff Lawyer is the preferred person to contact, given his long record of burials in the cemetery.
- Plants – A question was asked whether geraniums may be planted around a tombstone. It was agreed that that is fine and that it is trees and shrubs that are prohibited.
- Veterans' Recognition – In response to a question, Jeff said that it is the American Legion that installs flags on graves for Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Thus if a veteran is not recognized in that way, the recourse is to notify the American Legion. Jeff noted that he takes down the flags after the observance and returns them to the Legion for reuse.
- Headstones – In response to a question, Jeff stated that he is the person to contact regarding the installation of a headstone. Ronald noted that headstones must be anchored 4 feet below the surface.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m. Refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Dues were received by the Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,



Titus L. Presler, Clerk