

Town Hill Cemetery Committee
Town of New Hartford, CT
Held at New Hartford Town Hall
Annual Meeting
Special Meeting
May 10 2021

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

Present: Mary Lou Rayno (chairman), Debra Lindell (treasurer), Anne Hall (secretary), Donna Burdick, Nancy Linton

Meeting Minutes for January 19, 2021

Motion: To approve minutes as written made by Debra, seconded by Donna. All in favor.

Election of Officers

Anne made a motion to re-elect Mary Lou as chairman, seconded by Nancy. All in favor.

Donna made a motion to re-elect Debra as treasurer, seconded by Nancy. All in favor.

Donna made a motion to re-elect Anne as secretary, seconded by Debra. All in favor

Treasurer's Report

Debra presented the treasurer's report for the year. See report for detailed financial summaries. She noted that as of 4/30/2021 the cemetery had assets of \$140,770.01 in its Edward Jones account and \$3,285.60 in its Northwest Community Checking account. It also held as illiquid assets \$106,000 in the form of 106 available plots valued at \$1000 each.

The increase in plots from last year's 96 is due to the continued efforts of mapping out available areas by Mary Lou. Mary Lou stated that she still had a number of areas to research. Currently there are 643 known burials in the cemetery.

From May 1 2020 to Apr 30 2021 the activity in Northwest Community Checking account was as follows: \$4,522.25 deposited, either from Edward Jones or as donations for burials and \$5,475.00 withdrawn. All withdrawals were for Pinegrove Property Maintenance.

Debra suggested that we needed to review with our Edward Jones adviser the balance of our funds. Currently over three quarters is in mutual funds. Our original intention was to maintain a balance of 50/50 Mutual Funds and ETFs in order to maintain growth but reduce the risk of loss due to volatile markets. There was agreement that we should review this. Debra or Mary Lou will set up a meeting with our adviser.

Dan Jerram came into the meeting at 4:20

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report by Nancy, seconded by Donna, all in favor.

Mary Lou gave an update on the tree job contracted with Bristol. They will be coming in the next few weeks to take the trees down and will removed the large hanging pine branch at the same time. She stated that given the fact that our Edward Jones account had grown over the last year, we should look at what stones were in most urgent need of repair. There was agreement on this point.

Mary Lou noted that all books and documents relating to the cemetery are now held in the Town Hall.

Memorial Day: the Memorial Day celebration organized by the committee is occurring this year. Regina Wexler will be the speaker. Greg O'Brien and Robin Goodskey will be the vocalists. Anne will put the sign out at the Hoppen Road intersection a week in advance.

Cemetery Disturbance:

There was discussion over the cemetery disturbance. Mary Lou noted that it appeared that a second grave might have been disturbed. In this instance the disturbance was not as regular in pattern but consisted again of raw earth being exposed with no vegetation. The previous disturbance shows definite sinking. In both cases the areas showed more exposed earth when compared to a full burial elsewhere in the cemetery.

Mary Lou and Dan Jerram did have the state police out to document the areas.

There was discussion over the best course of action beyond repairing the soil in those areas. It was decided that the town would post a sign on the gates that the cemetery is closed dusk to dawn, which will allow the police to patrol more effectively. It was also determined that because it is a public area with no expectation of privacy, a camera mounted to watch the parking lot for activity would be in order as well. The town will do both of these things.

Motion to adjourn: Made by Donna at 4:45. Seconded by Debra. All in favor.