

# East Montpelier Cemetery Commission

The East Montpelier Cemetery Commission met at the Coburn home on July 7, 2015 at 2:00 PM. The following members were present: Pauline Coburn, Chair, Allen Ploof, Gary Hudson, Elliott Morse and Frederick Strong, Clerk. Also present were Rick Barstow and his daughter Julia.

## OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of previous meeting were approved.

Elliott and Allen reported that tree limbs endangering monuments in the Cutler cemetery are being cut and removed by Mr. Bayne of Calais.

In response to an e-mail received from Joe Mangan, of Marshfield expressing his availability for cemetery work, Allen hired him to mow and trim the Cutler cemetery on a trial basis. After completing a very good job Mr. Mangan quoted requirements and a price that was beyond our price range. The Barstows would like us to find someone else to complete the Cutler cemetery trimming.

The hazards of contact with the giant hogweed at the Village cemetery were also reiterated.

Discussion of adding a smaller walk behind power mower resulted in Mr. Barstow's request for a heavier duty string trimmer instead. Elliott will exchange the trimmer he uses with Mr. Barstow to see if it is more suitable.

Andy Morse is helping Elliott with strenuous work while Elliott is recovering from surgery. The commissioners all cautioned him to not overdo and bring on a relapse.

## NEW BUSINESS

Work of the Barstows was discussed. It was decided that we as a group had not provided proper guidance to insure that their work was completed to our total satisfaction. To eliminate any confusion, Allen, who previously performed these tasks, will prepare written instructions of work requirements for each cemetery. Additionally it was explained to the Barstows that we require that they use the equipment we provide, and that their guidance and instructions come solely from Elliott who is the Sexton.

It was **voted** to authorize Elliott to raise the pay for the Barstows to \$15.00 per hour after he is satisfied that they are up to speed and completing satisfactory work.

After discussion it was **voted** increase the pay of the Sexton (Elliott) to \$18.00 per hour.

It was determined that the Cate cemetery fence is in need of painting. Elliott will attempt to hire a college student who is looking for a summer job.

Considering the possible need for additional help, the use of students on summer vacation was discussed. The Town Administrator will check to determine the legalities.

It was **voted** that Allen should be sure to submit all of his hours devoted to cemetery care.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM. The next meeting will be at the call of the Chair.

Frederick C. Strong, Clerk