

Brattleboro Cemetery Committee  
Friday, April 12, 2019  
Municipal Center  
Town Clerks Office  
10:00 – 11:00 AM

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

*The Brattleboro Cemetery Committee is established for the purpose of advising the Selectboard in matters of care and maintenance of all Town owned cemeteries.*

*It establishes policies, rules and regulations for operation of the cemeteries; sets prices for services provided; lays out plots, drives and paths and prices for burial plots. No policy making decision of the Committee is valid unless approved by the Selectboard.*

### **Minutes**

1. The meeting was convened at 10:01; Committee Chair Brian Bannon called the meeting to order at 8:34; Committee members Jane Fletcher, Karen Kale and Gary Stroud were also present; member Jackie Stromberg was absent. Hilary Francis was also present.
2. Fletcher moved and Kale seconded that the Committee approve the minutes of October 4, 2018 meeting; the motion passed 4-0
3. Public Comment: Fletcher noted that the first cremation site has been sold. Kale asked if the flag pole solar light in Morningside is still functional.
4. Fletcher introduced green burial regulations used by Meetinghouse Cemetery to be considered as a template for Brattleboro town cemetery bylaws. She suggested that the previously considered Rose Lawn section of the cemetery may be inappropriate due to tree roots. Modifications proposed included refining language on who can excavate graves, limiting use of markers to natural wood, possible excepting inscribed stones place in a wall around the burial area, limiting plots to a 25 or 50 year rather than perpetual lease. Procedurally, Kale suggest notifying funeral homes before adopting an ordinance amendment. The Chair and Town Clerk will coordinate with the Town Manger's Office and the town attorney to review proposed amendments with the hope of having the amendments in place by spring of 2020.
5. Friends of Brattleboro Town Cemeteries – Status update. The Friends organizational meeting was not well attended; due to this, the group will not be formally organized. Work days have been planned, but will receive limited public advertising. Coordinating with Parks and Recreation to have a clean up day using power tools was raised; any such event will be at Parks and Recreation Department Director's discretion.
6. Topics to address at future meetings & next meeting date: site visit to Morningside on May 24<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am to meeting by the flagpole.