

DOUGLAS COUNTY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
23rd ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, April 25, 2019, 7:00 PM
Calvary Lutheran Church, Alexandria, MN

Call to Order. President Joel Blank called the Annual Meeting of the Douglas County Cemetery Association to order at 7:02 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Veterans Memorial Presentation. Russell Orlog, co-founder of the new Veteran's Memorial in downtown Alexandria, spoke requesting information on all soldiers. He reported on the work to replace missing and stolen vet stars in cemeteries.

Welcome and Introductions. President Blank welcomed those in attendance and introduced the current Board Members.

Announcement of voting members. President Blank noted that a cemetery must have the current year dues paid prior to the annual meeting in order to be a voting member. Treasurer Renae Hills read the current list of paid members.

Meeting Minutes. Minutes from the 2018 annual meeting were reviewed. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report. Report for Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2018 was presented by Treasurer Hills. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Essay Contest. President Blank reviewed the 2018 essay contest.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Board Members: The terms of Joel Blank and Ralph Gunderson expire. Clif Patrick chose to resign from the board. Julie Smith (First Lutheran Cemetery – Kensington) and Gary Halstead (Hudson) were placed on the ballot. Motion was made and seconded to cast a unanimous ballot. Motion passed.

Budget Discussion. Money for essay contest should be reduced to what is donated.

Essay contest. Discussion was had about the future of the essay contest. Discussion included the possibility of it moving to the Evansville Heritage FND since the Brandon-Evansville Schools are strong participants in this program.

Electronic newsletter. To save funds, the DCCA would like to move to an electronic newsletter. If you are interested in signing up for this, let a board member know.

Organizational meeting. The board will hold an organizational meeting on Tuesday, April 30 at 6 pm at the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, 206 Broadway.

Open discussion and idea sharing. Vice President John Loken read the mission statement of the DCCA and asked if the organization was helpful to county cemeteries. Information shared included:

- Evansville really likes the essay contest
- A limit should be put on monetary awards for the essay contest
- Wet and Forget was discussed as a great product for cleaning white stones. \$35 per gallon.
- Vaults for cremains were discussed
- Is cemetery liable for rodent damage?
- Does every cemetery have insurance?
- Green burials
- Special mention given of Ron Schneiderhan and George Moen who passed away this year.

Adjournment. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Darrel Holverson
Acting Secretary