

## Draft Waitsfield Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 9, 2025

Waitsfield Town Offices

6:00 pm

Present: Robin M., Robin P., Nancy, Laura, Mark and George Jr.

1. Welcome and agenda review : Robin M
2. Public comment: no public present
3. Review and approve minutes of May 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes: unanimously approved.
4. President's: report Robin M (see old business)
5. Treasurer's report Nancy. Unanimously approached.
  - a. CD matured 6/5/25. Accumulated \$604.10 in interest (from Oct. 24-June 25)
  - b. Ordered new checks.
  - c. Deposited CD total amount of \$20,669.10 into WCC checking account.  
WCC account balance= \$25,077.63 on 6/5/25.
  - d. Robin M. will work on cash flow statement.
  - e. Waitsfield Cemetery Trustees will be giving WCC \$20,000 soon.
6. Sexton's report: George. Unanimously approved.
  - a. Ordering new chain: 3" link is what is currently in place. George Jr. will research the cost and email the price to the WCC.
  - b. Update on Headstone repairs: Robin M. reviewed headstones that were repaired and "not completed" repairs. Robin M. will follow up with Jeff Pignona to discuss the incomplete repairs.
  - c. Cornerstones: In the future George Jr. will order the cornerstones as needed.  
We now charge \$25 a set. Robin M. will have a conversation with Jeff Pignona about cornerstone designs...Standard cornerstones are initials, special requests for different cornerstone designs will be considered. George will speak with Matt Fitzgerald about cornerstone pricing and options.  
Jeff Pignona called George about an unpaid WCC invoice #166. George cleared this up, proving that the invoice had been paid. .
  - d. Split rails for Common Cemetery: 5 purchased and installed at Mill Hill Cemetery (\$19 per rail, Kenyons)
  - e. Tree assessment from Matt Holland- to be continued.
  - f. Burials: 6/21 Steve Armstrong's father; Gwenda Giroux cremation burial Irasville; Joyce Rowe, 6/2 Common Cemetery, full burial.
  - g. Lot Sales: Common Cemetery, Rich Rivers is considering into it.
  - h. Mill Hill Cemetery fountain is running!
7. Old Business: All
  - a. Veteran's Flags: Nancy and Robin P- done! George Jr will add flags to a few graves that were missed.

- b. Gravestone cleaning: Robin P. assembled two kits for gravestone cleaning. Robin P. will keep them in her garage. Robin P. will try it out and send the WCC a link to the video how to for gravestone cleaning.
- c. Fencing for the Irasville Cemetery: Laura This project is on hold until Waitsfield waste water project is completed, probably in 2026..

From Misha Golfman: The Mehuron's spur is tied to the wastewater project. Once they connect to the wastewater line, they will disassemble their old leach field, regrade and reorganize the entire area, and make room for the path.

- d. Fencing at the Common Cemetery: Robin M contacted FE Hart to get pricing info. WCC members will look at other cemeteries' fencing or lack of fencing and discuss at July meeting.
- e. Tree removal at Mill Hill/others- to be cont.
- f. On-going Trustee communications: Robin and Nancy
- g. Cemetery Software Module: Mark- contacted Jennifer, we can work out a schedule to use a computer when available. Two parts: collecting data and entering data.
- h. Artifacts and Historical documents
  - i. Storage: Robin
  - ii. New items discovered in Town Vault: Mark- July meeting.
  - iii. History of the perpetual care trust: Nancy- to be cont.
- i. Cemeteries Capacity: Robin and George, Jr: to be cont.
- j. Water rights at Mill Hill: Laura and Robin P: Ted Joslin has done deed research. Laura will share his findings at July meeting.
- k. Recruiting to fill Mark's position: all
- l. Natural Burials: Revisit WCC's guidelines- LB – to be cont.
- m. Scattering Garden: Laura and Robin P.: to be cont.
- n. Day of the Dead Fundraiser: Robin M: to be cont.
- o. Brochure: Robin M: getting a quote from Minute Man press, for 50 brochures.
- p. MRV Cemetery Commission Summit: 6/26/25 5:30-8; 12 people plan to attend, reps from every CC. Robin M. shared a draft agenda.
- q. Community Event including Documentary about the Vermont Forest Cemetery: To be discussed at the MRV CC summit.
- r. Contact Patrick Healy. October or Nov.
  - i. Vermont Cemetery Association: RM
- s. Cemetery Tee shirts- fundraiser (Randy George's tee, RM)- Randy's aunt works on reclaiming historic cemeteries. Robin will send a link to WCC for creating t-shirts with headstones on it.
- t. Use of metal detectors in the Waitsfield Cemeteries. Mark: Cemeteries and public conduct on cemetery grounds is governed by State law, 18 VSA 5300-5579. Robin will add this to WCC policies, and forward to York to post on the Town website.
- u. Burning Bush on Strobe Connell's property: it has been removed.

8. New Business

- a. 3-5 Bluebird houses in Common Cemetery: Laura : proposal from Mad Birders. We'll need a donation of posts and labor. Laura will seek volunteers to make the posts and install the birdhouses.
- b. Irasville shed: big box of nails. Nancy will deliver to Yestermorrow, as a donation. Broken window, covered with wood now.

Next meeting: July 2, 2025 6-8pm

Adjourned: 8:10pm

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Brines, WCC Secretary