

Waitsfield Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 18, 2025

Waitsfield Town Offices

6:09 pm

1. Welcome and agenda review Robin M
2. Public comment No public present
3. Review and approve minutes of July 2, 2025 Meeting - Unanimously approved.
4. President's report Robin M (See Old Business)
5. Treasurer's report Nancy: Unanimously approved.
 - a. Town Audit- cemetery report complete
 - b. NSB balance: \$44,771.52
 - c. Town FY '26 allocation of \$15,000 has been received and deposited.
 - d. Of our \$5000 supplies (FY 25-26) budget- have spent \$751.88
 - e. Nancy will add moth balls to the shed to deter mice.
 - f. Letter received from Elizabeth Pierce Campbell re. where family members should be buried in their purchased lots. She says she sent a check for \$450 for perpetual care. The check was not included with the letter. George Jr. will call her to say she has already paid for perpetual care. George will advise her to stop payment on the check.
6. Sexton's report George. Unanimously approved.
 - a. Installing new chain: needs to be installed. It is in the shed stored.
 - b. Create a list of monument businesses to offer plot buyers.
 - c. Tree assessment from Matt Holland- to be cont.
 - d. Veteran Flags and using gray Pex to hold them up: 6" Pex sections, put 3' into the ground. George Jr will cut a 6" length and place it in the ground as a trial.
 - e. Common Cemetery Fence needs to be fixed ASAP. Need 15 rails and 5 posts from FE Hart. Robin M. will order them and deliver where George Jr. specifies.
 - f. Burials- none scheduled at this time.
 - g. Lot Sales: John Reilly, Common Cemetery; Richard and Deborah Rivers, single lot; Rick Beale (Virginia Joslin's stepson) wants to put a headstone on Virginia's plot in honor of his father, Common Cemetery. George Jr will ask where the headstone will be placed.
 - h. Horse monument installation will be this Fall: Matt Calagni will install. Sculptor, Jerry Williams... If drainage is needed George Jr will report to WCC.
 - i. Owen Wimble's niece wants to put a headstone on Owen's parents' lot for her mother/Owen's sister. George Jr. will suggest she choose a plain grass marker.
 - j. Jeff, Vermont Monuments, delivered the cornerstones to Irasville cemetery shed. Jeff did return and complete his unfinished, but paid for, monument repair work. Phew!
7. Old Business All
 - a. Gravestone cleaning: Robin P. : Robin P. will clean more when the weather is cool. D2 should not be scraped, just sprayed on marble headstones.
 - b. Cemetery Software Module: Mark and Robin: will meet with Julie Burns, Warren CC.
 - c. Artifacts and Historical documents
 - i. Storage: Robin: done! Now in 2 boxes in a closet upstairs, Town Office. Nancy will add old checkbooks, etc. to storage box.

- ii. History of the perpetual care trust: Nancy- ongoing.
- d. Water rights at Mill Hill: dormant issue at this time.
- e. Natural Burials: Revisit WCC's guidelines- tabled.
- f. Scattering Garden: Laura and Robin P.- ongoing.
- g. Day of the Dead Fundraiser: Robin M- daffodil bulbs from Costco, 4 bags. Robin will purchase.
- h. Brochure: Robin M: DONE!
- i. Community Event including Documentary about the Vermont Forest Cemetery: Laura B and Robin M, 10/16/25, 5-7.
 - i. 2nd article (in 4 part series) for the VR, 8/21/25.
 - ii. Robin P. will organize the refreshments....
- j. Annual Meeting with Valley Cemetery Commissions: Laura and Robin M
 - i. Tour of Green Mount Cemetery- successful.
 - ii. Tour of VT Forest Cemetery- successful.
- k. Vermont Cemetery Association: RM- Patrick Healy has retired, but is still working at Green Mt Cemetery. It seems no one is now Chair of the VT Cemetery Assoc.
- l. Use of metal detectors in the Waitsfield Cemeteries. Mark: Cemetery bylaws preamble. Mark shared a draft.

“ Cemetery bylaws preamble: Cemeteries and conduct by the public on cemetery grounds are governed by State law, 18 V.S.A, 5300-5579.

Removing items from public land and metal detecting are not permitted, per State lw, 22 V.S.A. 762.”

LB moved that we adopt this preamble. Robin P. seconded. Unanimously approved.
- 8. New Business- none
- 9. Schedule next meeting Th, Sept. 25, 2025
- 10. adjourn: 7:57 pm