

Waitsfield Cemetery Commission

DRAFT meeting minutes

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

Waitsfield Town Offices

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Present:

1. Welcome and agenda review- Robin M: additions to the agenda: FAQs added to Town website, Owen Wimble Sr.'s cemetery lot issue; how the cemetery should approach cemetery disputes.
2. Public comment: no public
3. Review and approve minutes of May 14, 2026 Meeting: Unanimously approved as amended.
4. President's report - Robin M: no report.
5. Treasurer's report Nancy. Unanimously approved.
 - a. Financial Update:
 - i. \$20,000 received from the Town and deposited.
 - ii. NSB current balance is \$40,383.22
 - iii. Working on FY26 for Town Auditor (July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026)
 - iv. Money left over from the maintenance budget as of July 1, 2026 will be earmarked, add line item on the for-capital expenses.
 1. Valerie suggested exploring the creation of a Town Cemetery Reserve Fund.
 - b. Trustees Update (Nancy and Robin). Bob Cook is continuing to research Cemetery Trust documentation.
6. Sexton's report- George Jr. Unanimously approved.
 - a. Klimeck lot payment received. Robin will send a single lot deed to Jennifer Hamlet, Carol Klimeck's daughter. Klimeck's headstone foundation is in, but not the monument yet.
 - b. Merv Spooner cremation burial in Village Cemetery, check received.
 - c. 6/7/26 burial payment for Eleanor Orr, Common Cemetery.
 - d. Jim Henry lot is in Row J, (not Row K as previously recorded) Common Cemetery. Robin P. will correct in Deed Book.
 - e. Peter White is still planning on buying two lots in Common Cemetery. They have a question about whether we have a policy regarding pets being buried in cemetery lots. Robin M. will research.

- f. Rich Rivers' headstone is installed.
 - g. Nancy Jennings asked if she can plant a hydrangea bush on her husband's grave (Charles Jennnings) in the Common Cemetery.
Laura and Robin P will do a site visit, and report back to the WCC.
 - h. Owen Wimble Sr. lot issue is resolved. Vickie Thurston selected a stone to put on her mother's grave. Her mother cremains are buried in the Wimble lot. Vickie bought a grass marker after consulting with Jeff, monument guy... Owen agreed to have Thurston family add a grass marker to the right of the headstone.
 - i. Common Cemetery old map: Bob Davison's name is written on the lot beside Laferrier's and there is no record or deed that has been discovered that Davison is buried in that lot. Nancy will research old checks to see if a check was ever received for Bob Davison's lot.
 - j. Charlie Goodman Sr's burial will be in two weeks. Charlie Sr. had previously purchased several lots and the family hopes to buy three more abutting lots.
 - k. Valerie met with George Jr. to talk about cutting down invasives in Irasville Cemetery, and disposing them over the bank.
 - l. George Jr. delivered all his old cemetery maps to Robin M., who will scan them and then return the maps to George Jr.
7. Old Business
- a. Veteran Flags (Nancy and Robin P)—Robin M. identified two additional headstones that need flags. Nancy and Robin P. will install them.
 - b. 5-Year Plan for Annual Tree Maintenance (Laura and Valerie): tabled.
 - c. Fencing at Common Cemetery (Robin M/George): Discussion ensued.
 - i. Next steps:
 - 1. Boulders are the most fiscally responsible solution.
 - 2. Robin P would like to rule out "doing nothing."
 - 3. WC commissioners will discuss options with friends, informal survey, report back next meeting.
 - d. Digitizing Cemetery Records (Robin M and Valerie): tabled.
 - e. Additional Capacity at Mill Hill Cemetery (Laura): Laura met with Peter Lazorchak, Senior water engineer with Stone Engineering; He proposes digging 4 test holes from the well box to the back corner, he would assess on site and produce a report. His fee would be a

maximum of \$1000. Also an excavator needs to be hired. Discussion ensued.

- i. George- parking should be designated between well box, half way down the side.
 - ii. Village Cemetery- Robin P. and Laura B. will conduct a site visit.
 - iii. Laura B. will get back to Peter to give him an update.
 - iv. Discussion will be continued at the July meeting.
 - f. Natural Burial Guidelines (Robin M and Laura)- tabled.
 - g. Approved Vendor List (Robin M and George)-tabled.
 - h. Scanning Cemetery Maps/designating one source of truth map (Robin M and Valerie)-tabled.
 - i. Waitsfield Cemetery Handbook (Robin M and Valerie)-tabled.
 - j. Storage of official Waitsfield Cemetery Commission meeting minutes and agendas Update (Robin M)- tabled.
 - k. Update on Alice Evans (Robin M)- complete.
 - l. Update on Geordie Hall Family Plot (Robin M)- complete. (See policy approved. Robin M. will send Geordie the new policy.)
 - m. Update on Eldredge Family Plot (George)- tabled.
 - n. Headstone Cleaning (Robin P)-tabled.
 - o. Tour of Cemeteries to assess natural burial areas (Robin M)-tabled.
 - p. Funding Sources for grants for cemetery projects- tabled.
 - i. Rural Resource Commission (Valerie)
 - ii. VOCA (Robin P)
8. New Business
- a. Review/Approve Cemetery Policies
 - i. Changing Lot Location after purchase (Robin)
 - ii. Plot control and burial rights policy draft. Amendments were suggested. Robin M., Nancy seconded, unanimously approved as amended.
 - iii. Policy for Exchanges of Unused Burial Lots- to be considered at a later date.
 - iv. Valerie shared advice from VT City of Leagues and Towns. Basically, if there is a family dispute it is up to the family to resolve it.
9. Schedule/Confirm Upcoming Meetings and adjourn
- a. July meeting (July 7, 6-8pm)

b. August meeting (No meeting scheduled for August)

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Brines, WCC Secretary