

Village Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

4:00 PM

Methodist Church

Hear Recording: <https://montgomeryvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Village-Cemetery-Commission-8-25-26.m4a>

Commissioners In Attendance: Lois Lumbra, Tim Murphy, George Gabuzda, Joanne Lamphear

Visitors: Cindy Gilchrist

1. Lois called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.
2. **Review and make any changes to the agenda** – Lois moved to accept as written. Tim seconded. All approved.
3. **Decide whether to merge the Village Cemetery Commission with Center Cemetery Commission**
 - Lois noted that there was a quorum of commissioners present.
 - Lois noted that she keeps a diary of her activities with respect to Cemetery business.
 - Joanne expressed support for the merger, saying it makes sense to merge the two
 - Lois expressed a desire to retire from the Commission and supports the dissolution of both boards and the formation of a new Commission to oversee both the Center and Village Cemeteries.
 - Tim expressed support for the merge and said that he did not feel he could continue on as a commissioner due to health concerns
 - George expressed support for the merger, and was concerned about why the West Hill cemetery commission does not want to form one commission.
 - Tim reiterated that the merger would result in dissolution of both commissions and formation of a single commission to oversee both cemeteries, with five new commissioners elected at the next town meeting.

- **Motion:** (Tim): Moved that a proposal be added to the next town meeting to merge the Village and Center Commissions. Lois seconded. **All commissioners approved the motion.**

4. Discussion regarding green burials.

- Green burials: There is no more room in the Village Cemetery for new plot sales; however, not all grave sites contain burials, so the question remains whether this burial process will be allowed in the Village Cemetery.

Discussion moved to whether markers would be allowed on green burials.

George stated that vaults are required for burials by state law. He buried two wives and the funeral home told him vaults were required. Lois stated that the funeral home (Adam Goss) continues to make this assertion, but it is not now required by state law. Lois stated that every burial within the last couple of years all burials have had vaults.

Tim indicated he is ready to buy two grave sites in the either cemetery as soon as green burials are available. George noted that St Onge owns land adjacent to the Village Cemetery and they might be willing to sell or donate the land for cemetery use.

Motion (Tim): Allow green burials in existing lots in the Village Cemetery. Seconded by Joanne. Lois and George are not in favor of the green burials being mixed in with traditional burials. **Vote:** Two in favor, two opposed. **Motion did not pass.**

Motion (George): In the event that additional land becomes available to the Village Cemetery, allow green burials in a dedicated area of the cemetery. Seconded by Tim. **Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Grounds maintenance.

Lois described maintenance to the grounds that had recently been completed. Lois was very complimentary to Avery for his good work.

6. **Adjournment.** Lois made a motion to adjourn, seconded by George. All approved; Meeting was adjourned 4:45 PM.