

Center Cemetery Commission Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: Thursday, July 2nd, 2026

Town Office (86 Mountain Road)

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM.

In attendance:

Center Cemetery Commissioners: Jade Kelly Dixson-Boles, Cindy Gilchrist

Village Cemetery Commissioners : Lois Lumbra, JoAnne Lanphear, George Gabuzda

Visitors: Jen Wirth, Annie Purrier, Ryland Purrier, Jamie Edwards, Mary Roberts, George Roberts

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda – no changes made
2. Review and approve minutes from previous meeting? – defer until next meeting.
3. Board Vacancies
 - a. Cemetery Commissioner to serve until the next town meeting (seat previously held by Linda Cluba).

Jade Kelly nominated Jen Wirth. Jen Wirth appointed 2-0.
 - b. Cemetery Commissioner to serve until the next town meeting (seat previously held by Charlie Purrier).

Jade Kelly nominated Annie Purrier. Annie Purrier appointed 2-0.
 - c. Cemetery Commissioner to serve until the next town meeting (seat previously held by Lyndol Elkins).

Ryland Purrier, Marlene Hambledon and Jamie Edwards have expressed interest in serving.

Jade Kelly nominated Ryland Purrier. Ryland Purrier appointed 2-0.

The newly appointed commissioners will need to stop by the Town Office to sign their Oath of Office before the next meeting.
4. Organization of Board (elect Chair, Secretary)
 - a. Jade Kelly nominated Cindy to serve as board chair. Cindy Gilchrist elected 2-0
 - b. Cindy nominated Jade Kelly as Secretary. Jade Kelly Dixson-Boles elected as secretary 2-0.
5. Grounds/Maintenance (corner markers, trees)

There are several corner markers at Lyndol's house that have not been installed. The corner markers belong to Annie Purrier, and Annie will follow up with Jeff Lawyer about getting them installed.

Avery does the mowing for the cemeteries. Jeff Lawyer digs the graves.
When someone buys a lot, the cemetery orders the corner markers from Plouffe in St. Albans.

There are broken monuments in the Village cemetery. Lyndol used to fix them. The cemetery will need to find someone else who can fix the monuments. Annie suggested contacting Plouffe, as they will know who can do that.

6. Possibilities for Expansion

There is land owned by the town to the left and right of the cemetery. Jade Kelly will contact the Selectboard and find out what steps would be needed to expand the cemetery.

7. Modernizing cemetery records

Annie said that Nancy Lumbra worked on computerizing the cemetery records in the past. Jade Kelly will contact Nancy to find out the details of what has been done.

There are currently some question marks in the cemetery books. Jade Kelly will work with Annie to resolve those.

8. Green Burial

There was discussion about whether vaults are required. The Center Cemetery bylaws currently require a vault, but could be revised.

9. Possibility of combining Center and Village

Cindy will set up a meeting with Lois and Charlie Hancock to discuss the steps required to combine the Village and Center cemeteries.

10. Meeting schedule for future meetings. Next meeting will be Thursday, August 6th at 7:00 PM. The board anticipates meeting monthly for the next few months.

11. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn by Cindy. Seconded by Jade Kelly. Approved 2-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Summary of Action Items:

1. Jen Wirth, Annie Purrier, and Ryland Perrier: sign oath of office prior to next meeting (Thu 6 Aug 2026 at 7pm)

2. Annie Purrier: Follow up with Jeff Lawyer regarding installation of corner markers that have been purchased
3. Cindy / Jade: Inspect the condition of the monuments in the Center Cemetery to determine whether any need repairs. (All commissioners are welcome to join.)
4. Jade Kelly: Contact Selectboard to find out what steps need to be taken to expand the Center Cemetery
5. Jade Kelly and/or Cindy: Contact Nancy Lumbra to go through what's been done to computerize the cemetery records, and how to maintain the system
6. Jen Wirth: research state laws regarding green burials and report findings to Center Cemetery Commission
7. Cindy: Meet with Lois Lumbra and Charlie Hancock to discuss combining Center and Village Cemetery commissions