

GRAND ISLE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2026, 4:30 p.m., Grand Isle Town Office

Meeting was called to order by Valerie Hunter, Chair at 4:31 p.m.

Commissioners present: Brian Allen, Lucille Campbell, Sue Lawrence, Suzanne Sauv . Val Hunter was present on Zoom.

Guests: none

Organization of Commission:

Sue Lawrence moved to keep Val Hunter as Chair, Suzanne Sauv  seconded.

Sue moved to keep Brian Allen as Vice-Chair, Val seconded.

Brian moved to keep Sue as Administrator/Secretary, Suzanne seconded.

Val moved to keep Lucille Campbell as Recording Secretary, Brian seconded.

The vote was called on all motions. All passed unanimously.

Lucille moved to keep the meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. Brian seconded. Passed unanimously.

Discussion of posting locations for agendas and minutes and newspaper of record. Currently it is the Town Office and Emmons Market, with the transfer station and library to be used if necessary, and The Islander as the newspaper of record.

Brian moved to keep the current posting locations and newspaper, Sue seconded. Passed.

Additions or deletions to agenda: None

Minutes: Brian moved to accept the February 10, 2026 minutes as written. Sue seconded. All in favor.

Administrative Report – Sue Lawrence

Financials: Report presented, only changes were interest amounts. Interest from one account may be missing as the statement has not come from the bank. Brief discussion about asking Melissa to set up electronic banking for the Cemetery bank accounts.

Lawn Care & Maintenance: Jesse wants to start spring clean-up at the cemetery while the weather is good and wants to put a screen at the opening of the culvert to catch debris. That may be difficult because the pond is back.

Val mentioned that Jeff Kuhn had removed some of the wreaths. Discussion about when Jesse should remove the rest if owners had not done it. Rules say removal by April 1. Lucille will post a notice on Front Porch Forum as a reminder for people to remove them.

Burials & Lot Sales: 2 or 3 burials planned for spring. No lot sales.

Old Business:

Cemetery Data – NEMRC update: Tabled until April.

Lawn Care Contract: Jesse will continue at the same hourly rate as last year. Discussion about the steep increase in the price of gas. Commission will revisit this if necessary.

New Business:

Home Burial Policy: Discussion about the Home Burial Policy that South Hero Cemetery Commission has and whether we need to include it in Grand Isle's rules. Brian asked if there had been any queries about home burials in Grand Isle. Sue mentioned two and said both had decided not to do it, one because of the regulations and the other because of the issue of selling the property. Brian was concerned that property would be hard to sell with a burial on the grounds. Lucille said that the Cemetery Commission really had no say as home burials were legal in Vermont. All Commissioners agreed that there was no need to include a Home Burial Policy in our Rules. Lucille suggested that the following statement be included in the Rules and Regulations below the section for green burials:

Home Burials Home burials are regulated by the State of Vermont and possibly by local zoning regulations, not by the Grand Isle Cemetery Commission. For more information check your local zoning regulations, or see:

www.healthvermont.gov/systems/end-life-decisions/private-property-burials

www.vermontfuneral.org/arrange-disposition.html

Sue moved to add Lucille's suggested paragraph to the Rules and Regulations. Suzanne seconded. Passed with all in favor.

May Meeting: Lucille announced that she would not be able to attend the May 12 meeting but would be able to do the agenda and schedule the Zoom meeting. She asked if anyone would be willing to set up the equipment for the Zoom meeting and take the minutes. With no volunteers, she suggested we might be able reschedule the meeting if there was a free time when the town office was not used for other Zoom meetings. Consensus was that we would table this decision until the April meeting. We will get as many items as possible done during the April meeting by moving CD renewal and flags discussions to April, and then decide whether to reschedule, cancel the May meeting, or have the May meeting be a work session at the Village Cemetery on the day we place the flags.

Sue mentioned that Mike Tranby said Isle of Patmos Lodge was providing the flags again this year. Lucille will post a Front Porch Forum notice before the end of April asking for volunteers to place flags.

Brian moved to adjourn, Suzanne seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m. Next meeting April 14 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucille Campbell, Recording Secretary

