

City of Barre

Public Body Meeting Minutes Corrected

Committee: Cemetery

Date of Meeting: June 9, 2025

Location of Meeting: 2nd Floor Alumni Hall

Committee Members in Attendance: Chairman Giuliano Cecchinelli, Heather Milne-Ritchie, Helen Long, Starr LeCompte, Mark Gherardi, Ilene Gillander, Renie Zanleoni and Director Tom Baker

Members Absent: None

Guests in Attendance: City Manager Nicolas Storellicastro, Gary Knowles, Whitney Maxfield, Errol Briggs and Gary Sassi

Meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm.

Minutes of the May 12, 2025 meeting were approved.

Discussion of St. Monica's Cemetery - Gary Knowles, Chairman of the Flags for Veterans Committee and Whitney Maxfield, Vice Chairman of the Flags for Veterans Committee spoke. They would like the fallen stones set upright again. Tom Baker will try to find the money to do this. Mark remarked that many of the stones were placed on subpar foundations years ago and that the City inherited this problem.

Discussion of Elmwood Cemetery - Errol Briggs spoke for the group. He announced that the Sons of the American Legion will begin the restoration of some of the monuments in Elmwood from their 5K funding. They must go to the City Manager for permission to fix the stones. He also mentioned that the roads in Elmwood need the ruts filled.

Hope Cemetery - Discussion about the grubb situation is tabled until July's meeting due to lack of information.

Old Business:

Discussion of Point Person for the Cozzi Endowment: Giuliano suggested Jeff Bergeron is an excellent candidate for the primary point person for the Cozzi Bequest Project. Mark had a suggestion to incorporate a more impressive War Memorial into our fountain design plans.

Motion: To ask Jeff Bergeron to be the Point Person for the Cozzi Project.

Mover: Mark Gherardi Second: Starr LeCompte Result of Vote: All approved

We will have a special meeting with Jeff if he agrees to this position. Nicolas said Jeff can NOT be employed by the City because he is a councilman. This would be a volunteer position.

Mark presented a sample poster that would announce the building of the fountain and ask that anyone who wants to be involved should come forward.

Discussion of Cemetery Regulation City Council 6/3/25 This was approved.

Discussion of Sassi Monument: Gary Sassi was present to discuss the importance to him of the placement of the new memorial facing the family mausoleum.

Motion: To allow Gary an exception to the rule to place his new monument in front of the family mausoleum. Mover: Heather Milne-Ritchie Second: Starr LeCompte

Result of vote: 6 votes Yes , 1 vote No Motion was approved

Discussion of Member Conduct: Ilene apologized publicly to Tom Baker. He accepted the apology. Nicolas will send out an expectations document for all committee members.

Director's Report: Tom Baker is still pursuing software for the cemetery. He suggested beginning a review of the Rules and Regulations one section at a time.

Next Meeting: Meeting date is tentative for July 14 or July 21, 2025

Meeting was adjourned: 4:40 pm Mover: Starr LeCompte Second: Renie Zanleoni