

VALA BI - MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 14, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

Approximately 42 Attendees.

The meeting was called to order at 9:32am.

Welcome – Proof of Quorum-Delegate Count – Proof of Quorum verified. Lisa Truchon, Treasurer, noted Treasurer Update is not on the agenda, and stated all is well in finance land.

Secretary’s Report - Approve minutes from Nov 12, 2025 – No comments were received regarding the November 12, 2025, VALA Meeting Minutes, as submitted by Justin Mason, Secretary.

Motion made by Bob Quaderer to approve the November 12, 2025, meeting minutes, seconded by Todd Leblanc. Voting: All in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

Organize Current Committees: Linda Sherman, President, encouraged people to voice their interests or disinterests in being on a committee as re-organization occurs.

Legislative Committee:

TBD (Chair) - Robert Vickery.

Mimi Burstein, Lisa Wright, Cristina Tardie, Jeremiah Sund, Linda Sherman,

John Fike, Todd LeBlanc, Bob Quaderer, Ed Clodfelter – All members present are willing to stay on. Sarah Bennett would like to join the Legislative Committee, along with Robert Vickery and he is willing to chair the committee. It was noted that when meetings are scheduled, it would be up to the chair to convene the meeting and ensure VALA and Committee Members are aware. Requests were received for agendas and minutes for committee meetings be taken and posted. Goals and completed tasks by and for committees are also requested and recommended.

Education Committee:

Mimi Burstein (Chair)

Linda Sherman, Bob Quaderer – All members present would like to stay on the Education Committee. Susan Gulrajani is willing to join the committee. Mimi Burstein stated IAAO Courses are all planned for 2027 and 2028, and she will be speaking with an instructor today to finalize dates. Mimi Burstein stated that assistance is requested if more in-person classes would like to be held due to the additional time involved setting up courses. There will be in-person and virtual courses offered in rotation. Mimi Burstein noted that she is not in the position as a “9am-5pm” on the education committee and to allow time for responses.

Conference Committee (2026):

Susan Gulrajani (Chair)

Sharon Ronchetti, Lisa Wright, Jeremiah Sund, Terri Sabens, Mimi

Burstein, Phylliss Hayward, Lisa Truchon (Financial), Linda Sherman, Bob

Quaderer (Web/Newsletter) - Sharon R. is willing to join the conference committee. Terri Sabens would like to be removed from the committee due to upcoming relocation. All other members present would like to remain on the committee.

Committee & Misc Reports:

- **Legislative Committee: Mimi Burstein** – The VALA Website has ACT 73 and related information. Website submissions may be requested and submitted to Bob Quaderer or Mimi Burstein.
- **VALA Newsletter/Website: Bob Quaderer** – Bob Quaderer stated information can be found on the VALA website and requested newsletter content to be submitted. A documents page, additional public comments and suggestions are recommended. . It was recommended to use the Website/Newsletter as a tool to advocate for VALA priorities.
- **Advocacy Tools: Video, etc.** - Recommended to be added to the VALA website.
- **Other Ideas from VALA members** – Discussed throughout the meeting.
- **Annual Mtg & Conference Status:** Susan Gulrajani – The Annual Meeting & Conference has been confirmed for Killington, VT, for September 17 and 18, and a deposit has been submitted. Thursday night would like to be expanded with an additional speaker, seminar, movie, or round table. Recommendations were made,

including a recommendation from Jed for the movie “Nosey Parker” featuring listers in Tunbridge. Ideas are encouraged to be submitted.

- **Membership/Education: Mimi Burstein** – Mimi Burstein provided an update as included above under the Education Committee.
- **PVR: (TBD)** - Jill Remick has a draft from the regional assessment district report that is due on January 15, 2026, for submission to the legislature regarding ACT 73 and statewide and regional assessment districts with 6-year Townwide Reappraisal cycles. It was noted that House Ways and Means was presented and discussed around 2:00pm and is available on the YouTube channel. Additional work will be required from the municipalities as there is a third taxation and categorization that was cautioned as being more complicated than homesteads, which is a non-homestead residential rates for second homes. Compensation to municipalities still needs to be discussed. Jill Remick stated Townwide Reappraisals sharing contracts are being discussed due to town size and firm availability. The Grand List moving from April 1 to January 1 is being discussed, and it was recommended to wait until at least 2030 to implement this change. Jill Remick shared the legislative report in draft form with questions and clarifications needed and proposed. A career path for Listers and Assessors was recommended to be established, and certification requirements are effective as of January 1, 2026. More frequent Townwide Reappraisal reviews and check-ins were recommended for tracking and quality control purposes. Jill Remick noted the parcel definition is changing as updating inactive parcels and updating them with VCGI and online mapping was recommended, and for per parcel payment being 75%. Jill Remick also mentioned a meeting will be held with CAMA vendors for tracking housing. A Statewide Land Records system was also recommended because each Town has different access for land records, which can make it difficult for Assessors to contract with municipalities if access is limited. The reappraisal appeal structure was discussed, deciphering if the RAD Board or BCA be the authority. It was noted that PTTR changes would also be needed during these transitions, and plain English was recommended for PTTR forms and the alike.
- **VLCT: (TBD)** - None.
- **NEMRC: (TBD)** - Ed Clodfelter stated NEMRC Seminars are upcoming for February 2026, and will be announced in the coming weeks.
- **VTPIE: (TBD)** - Updates will be coming from PVR.
- **Other Stakeholders: (TBD)**
- **Old Business: Finalize Committees**

- **New Business/Action Items** – Kenneth Nosek spoke with the Tax Commissioner after the VALA Meeting and the Operations Manager for Taxpayer Services. Direct communications were requested between taxpayer services and Town Clerk and Listers/Assessors Offices to reduce confusion at the municipal and taxpayer level. Kenneth Nosek read an email as received from Kimberly Flint. The examiners will now send a letter to the taxpayer regarding their municipal needs so the taxpayer and municipality can be on the same page, and the municipality can contact the taxpayer services directly after being presented the letter from the citizen. It was noted that there are confidentiality and privacy rules that require taxpayer services to contact the taxpayer directly.
- **Adjourn** – Motion made by John to adjourn, seconded by Todd Leblanc. Voting: All in favor, 0 against, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:11am.

Submitted by: Justin Mason, VALA Secretary, Vermont Municipal Property Assessor