



Winooski Valley Park District

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Board of Trustees
Minutes of the Meeting
August 15, 2017
The meeting began at 4:30 PM.

Present: Aaron Keech (Burlington), Susan Gilfillan (Colchester), Tom Malinowski (Essex), Sonja Schuyler (Jericho), Dave Crawford (South Burlington), Erin Dupuis (Winooski), Nick Warner (Executive Director), Lauren Chicote (Programs Director).

Absent: Rita Dessau (Williston)

Acceptance of Minutes, 4:30PM: The July 2017 minutes were accepted unanimously with the correction of “insurance audit” changed to “insurance review” on page 2 of the July meeting minutes.

Public Comment Period, 4:35 PM: No guests were present at time of public comment period.

Real Estate Update, 4:40 PM: Nick gave Erin Dupuis (new board member) a very brief update on a potential real estate acquisition.

Executive Session, 4:50 PM: The board moved to executive session to discuss a potential real estate transaction. At 5:15 PM, the board moved to exit the executive session.

Potential Real Estate Acquisition, 5:20 PM: A motion was presented to authorize Sonja Schuyler to execute a real estate option that was discussed in executive session by the board, subject to revisions discussed in executive session. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion of a Legislative Funding Request, 5:25 PM: Nick presented to the board a Power Point presentation discussing deferred maintenance projects at the EAHM and the WVPD. Nick proposed a trip and presentation to the VT Legislature for funding for capital improvements. Nick included a list of items in the Power Point that included septic, EAHM park entrance, the 2nd floor at CPNA, the bridge at Old Mill Park, and others.

Nick approached Richard Deane of Truex/Cullins Interior Designs to put together a presentation for Nick to take with him to the VT Legislature. Truex/Cullins presented Nick and the board with a Conceptual Design Proposal that was shared with the board members.

Nick told the board that he would also look for other funding sources for deferred maintenance projects. The board instructed Nick to come back to them with more details in the September 2017 board meeting. The board believed this undertaking would be good exposure for both the EAHM and the WVPD.

Financial Report for The WVPD, 5:50 PM: The 2017 fiscal year budget summary was not available for this meeting. Lauren told the board members that she would have that at the September meeting.

The FY 2018 budget summary was presented to the board, showing a deficit of \$31,127.23. Nick told the board the deficit was because there were no payments yet from member towns this fiscal year.

Financial Report for The EAHM, 5:55 PM: Nick delivered the Profit / Loss Statement to the board which shows assets of \$31,374.83. Nick told the board that The EAHM continues to gain financial traction. Susan asked about a line item in the statement called "Question Account" for \$745.36. This line is a place holder for questions the bookkeeper has as to which account income/expense items should be assigned to; once the bookkeeper receives clarification on these items they are reassigned.

Welcome to New Board Member Erin Dupuis, 6:00 PM: Nick and the current board of trustees welcomed Erin Dupuis from Winooski. Erin gave her professional background to the board members, and told us of her appreciation for natural areas. Welcome Erin!!

Survey and Master Plan Update, 6:05 PM: Nick gave the board an update on the article in The Seven Days regarding the WVPD funding formula. Susan told the board that Colchester officials were not up to speed on the concerns with Williston regarding the funding formula which was the base of the article.

Nick informed the board that Katherine (Deac) Decarreau has moved on from her role as a WVPD funding formula consultant for the Master Plan as she has taken on a full time job.

Nick gave the board a Power Point presentation on potential Fair Share Formula proposals based on grand list, acreage, and population of member towns. The board had a lengthy discussion about the best potential choices that would be agreeable to all the member towns. Nick told the board that he would keep in contact with the member towns in the Park District to understand their interests in a funding formula. There was no final decision on a funding formula choice.

Nick suggested approaching Williston to ask to take ownership of one specific natural area to create a stronger connectivity to the town. Nick suggested that there may be support for owning a parcel in Williston.

Next Meeting: Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 19, 2017.

Respectfully prepared by,

Respectfully submitted by,

Tom Malinowski
Trustee, Town of Essex

Rita Dessau
Secretary