



# Winooski Valley Park District

**Ethan Allen Homestead**  
Burlington, Vermont 05408

Tel: (802) 863-5744    info@wvdp.org    www.WVPD.org    Fax: (802) 865-0647



## **Minutes for April 21, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting for Winooski Valley Park District**

The meeting began at 4:36PM. Meeting was held via conference video call (Zoom) due to the current situation regarding the coronavirus, COVID-19. WVPD offices are closed until further notice.

**Present via conference call:** Sonja Schuyler (Jericho), John Nittler (Williston), Erin Dupuis (Winooski)(joined at 5:18pm), Susan Gilfillan (Colchester), David Crawford (South Burlington), Aaron Keech (Burlington), Nick Warner (WVPD Executive Director), Lauren Chicote (WVPD Programs Director)

**Absent:** “To be Named” Essex Trustee.

**Accept Minutes from the January and March 2020 Board meetings, and the April 6 and April 8, 2020 emergency board meetings:** Minutes for all meetings were approved and accepted unanimously with no changes.

**Agenda Changes:** No changes were made to the agenda.

**Public Comment Period:** No public was present at the time.

**Financial Reports for Ethan Allen Homestead Museum/WVPD:** Financial reports for the Ethan Allen Museum were not available at the time of the meeting. However, Nick and Lauren shared that the Museum had applied for the Paycheck Protection Program through the Small Business Administration and that their application had been approved. Susan asked the question of whether WVPD had looked into applying for the program. Nick had looked into applying but decided WVPD would most likely be ineligible for the loan forgiveness since the majority of expected income (from member town contributions) for the current fiscal year (FY20) had already been received, and WVPD has a capital reserve fund. WVPD continues to closely follow economic stimulus plans and will apply for any future assistance we would be eligible for, if such opportunities become available.

**Directors Updates:** WVPD anticipates member towns will be facing tough financial situations in the coming months. Nick shared a first draft of a provisional budget in anticipation of potential funding changes from member towns in FY2021. This budget keeps the four year-round staff positions along with park and building maintenance line items from original budget. WVPD has made the decision to not hire seasonal staff for the coming season.

Over the coming weeks Nick will be in communication with staff from each member towns to discuss potential financial situations, how each town will be managing the changes, and how

they will impact the Park District. Staff will continue to run scenarios and adjust budgets accordingly.

Nick gave an update on visitation at the Ethan Allen Homestead and Colchester Pond. Caretakers at both parks have been monitoring the situations at each park and observing that overall park users are following the signage that has put out at the parks. At Colchester Pond, cars have not been parking on the access road with the installation of the no-parking signs there. However, cars do park along Curve Hill Road to access the park. At the Ethan Allen Homestead, most users follow the guidelines, however, there continues to be off leash dogs and some groups of people congregating. Caretakers will continue to monitor the situations and report any issues to WVPD staff.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:28 PM.

**Next Meeting:** The date for the next meeting will be May 19, 2020 at 4:30 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by:

---

Lauren Chicote, Programs Director