



Winooski Valley Park District

Ethan Allen Homestead

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Minutes for October 27, 2020 Board of Trustees for Winooski Valley Park District

The meeting began at 4:32PM. Meeting was held via conference video call (Zoom) due to the current situation regarding the coronavirus, COVID-19. WVPD offices are closed to the public until further notice.

Present via conference call: Susan Gilfillan (Colchester), Jeffery Theis (Essex), Sonja Schuyler (Jericho), David Crawford (South Burlington), John Nittler (Williston), Nick Warner (WVPD Executive Director), Lauren Chicote (WVPD Operations Manager).

Guests: Fred Wiseman, Alnobaiwi/VT Indigenous Heritage Center

Absent: Aaron Keech (Burlington), Erin Dupuis (Winooski).

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

Agenda Changes: No changes to the agenda were made.

Review and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings: The minutes for the September 29th meeting were reviewed. Dave Crawford motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by John Nittler. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

The minutes for the October 5th Special Meeting were reviewed. John Nittler motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Jeff Theis. Susan Gilfillan and Dave Crawford abstained from the motion as Susan did not have a copy of the minutes and Dave was not present at the meeting. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

Review and Approve Financial Reports: The Treasurers report for the Ethan Allen Homestead Museum was presented and reviewed by the board. Overall, the Museum is doing well even with limited operation hours and tour capacity this past season due to COVID-19 limitations.

The financial report for WVPD for FY21 through the month of September 2020 was presented. A deficit of \$77,338.88 was reported, as WVPD has not received most of its member town allocations for the new fiscal year as of the date of the report (September 30). WVPD did receive Jericho's first payment out of three. Member towns are being invoiced for the current FY21 allocations presently, and WVPD expects to receive allocations over the next several months.

Dave Crawford also wanted the minutes to reflect that he, as treasurer, reviewed and approved the warrants report for the month of September 2020 as sent to him by Lauren Chicote. Usually reports are reviewed in person and signed at the beginning of monthly meetings, however due to COVID-19 reports have not been able to be signed. Warrants reports have been shared, reviewed, and approved by Dave via email each month. Minutes will now reflect that warrants have been received, reviewed, and approved by the treasurer.

Discuss Alnobaiwi/VT Indigenous Heritage Center MOA with Fred Wiseman: Nick Warner and Fred Wiseman presented a draft joint resolution between WVPD and Alnobaiwi/VT Indigenous Heritage Center (VIHC) for use of space at the Ethan Allen Homestead. This resolution will be accompanied by a more detailed lease/license agreement for use of space – the resolution defines the relationship between the WVPD and Alnobaiwi/VIHC while the

lease/license will detail more explicate operations/responsibilities of use and management of the space used by Alnobaiwi/VIHC.

While very supportive of the work of Alnobaiwi/VIHC, the board expressed concerns about not understanding the background/history of the relationship between WVPD and Alnobaiwi/VIHC that has led to the need for this agreement. A memo will be drafted and sent to the board for review along with a copy of the draft memo. The board will further discuss the draft at the November meeting.

The board also discussed how this sort of agreement should be reviewed similarly to WVPD's land acquisition criteria – ensuring that it fits within WVPD's mission as entering into such agreement sets a precedent for other organizations/entities in requesting use of land at other WVPD parks. Nick Warner will adapt WVD's land acquisition criteria to create a similar rubric for evaluating such agreements to be reviewed at the November meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:25PM.

Next Meeting: The date for the next meeting will be November 17, 2020 at 4:30 PM via Zoom.

Meeting Minutes prepared by:

Lauren Chicote, Operations Manager