

Winooski Valley Park District

Ethan Allen Homestead

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Minutes for August 24th, 2021, Board of Trustees for Winooski Valley Park District

The meeting began at 4:32PM. Meeting was held virtual via Zoom with Nick Warner in person at WVPD offices at the Ethan Allen Homestead in Burlington, VT.

Present (via Zoom): Susan Gilfillan (Colchester), Sonja Schuyler (Jericho), Erin Dupuis (Winooski), Aaron Keech (Burlington), David Crawford (South Burlington), Jeffery Theis (Essex) Nick Warner (WVPD Executive Director), Lauren Chicote (WVPD Operations Manager).

Absent: Williston representative (position currently vacant).

Public Comment Period: Nick present at parks district office. None present at time of public comment.

Agenda Changes: No changes to the agenda where made.

Review and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings: The minutes for the July 20th meeting were reviewed. Sonja made note of one grammatical error on page 1. David Crawford motioned to approve the minutes with that change, seconded by Aaron Keech. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

Review and Approve Financial Reports: Lauren Chicote presented the July 2021 financials, July being the start of fiscal year. Reports indicate large deficit due to start of fiscal year and no income other than contracted work received. Invoices have been sent out to towns. Jeff Theis asked about obligations of towns payment. Further discussions of Winooski payment history and financials and if pressure on Winooski to make payments in full is the best tactic. Nick discussed the continued effort for positive relations and new connections once new city manager in place.

Ethan Allen Homestead Museum Financial report: Month of July financials looking healthy with steady daily visitors, large groups and Sunday lectures.

Board has reviewed and accepted the reports.

Discuss/approve changes in FY2022 Operating Budget: Lauren Chicote states the changes do not increase or decrease the bottom line numbers. Because of the significant surplus in the salary line item, the funds have been reallocated to the following areas: Utilities, building maintenance, park maintenance and supplies. Sonja Schuyler asked about why the \$12,000 shortage is not reflected on the budget. Nick Warner stated full amounts due by municipalities are always included in proposed budget. Susan Gilfillan and Jeff Theis extended their gratitude for the sharing of the changes.

Draft Easement for Derway Cove: The board discussed the most recent draft of the Conservation Easement for Derway Cove provide by project partner and easement holder Lake Champlain Land Trust (LCLT). Nick spoke to the revisions requested from the prior meeting; including having more flexible language regarding allowable structures on the property, and language regarding the permitting and regulation of hunting. Susan Gilfillan speaks to concern about section 12 in regard to liability. Nick Warner will have Ed Fitzpatrick will review said section. Aaron Keech has a few comments about how the shoreline language is written. Susan Gilfillan moved to table this discussion, Aaron Keech second, all in favor.

Executive Session Jeffery Theis motioned for the board to enter executive session to discuss real estate matters which premature disclosure would disadvantage the Park District, seconded by Aaron Keech. The board unanimously entered executive session at 5:35 PM. The board left executive session at 5:42 PM with a motion from Susan Gilfillan, seconded by Erin Dupuis.

Adjournment: Susan Gilfillan moved to adjourn, David Crawford seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:48 PM.

Next Meeting: The date for the next meeting will be September 21st, 2021, at 4:30 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by:
Edw. Downia WWDD Downl Communication
Erin Dupuis,WVPD Board Secretary