



Winooski Valley Park District

Ethan Allen Homestead

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Minutes for February 20, 2024, Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees for Winooski Valley Park District

The meeting began at 4:31 PM. Meeting was held both in person at the WVPD offices at the Ethan Allen Homestead and virtually via Zoom.

Present (via Zoom): Susan Gilfillan (Colchester), George Tyler, (Essex Junction), Jeffery Theis (Essex), Sonja Schuyler (Jericho), Reid Willis (Williston), Bridget O'Brien (Winooski), Nick Warner (Executive Director) (in person at WVPD office), Lauren Chicote (Operations Manager).

Absent: Andrew Gregg (Burlington), Larry Kupferman (South Burlington).

Public Comment Period: There were no members of the public at the meeting.

Agenda Changes: No changes to the agenda were made.

Review and Accept Minutes from previous meetings: The Board reviewed the February minutes. Reid Willis moved to accept the February minutes, seconded by George Tyler. The February minutes were unanimously accepted.

Review and Accept Financial Reports: Lauren Chicote presented the July 1, 2023 – February 29, 2024, financial report for current fiscal year, FY2024. With a little over three months left in the fiscal year the budget continues to remain on track. WVPD has received all member communities' allocations for the fiscal year, except for Jericho which pays in three installments – one installment remains and is expected to be paid in April. The roof of the Colchester Pond caretaker house and garage needs to be replaced due to damage from high winds this winter. The estimate for the replacement is just over \$11,000 and will put the Buildings Maintenance line item overbudget; projected underspending in other line items should balance this in the overall budget. Reid Willis moved to accept the financial report, seconded by George Tyler. The financial report was unanimously accepted.

Projects, Grants, and Post-Town Meeting Day Updates: Nick Warner updated the board on recent grant application notifications; progress on the Allen House and Education Center roofing projects at the Ethan Allen Homestead; eclipse plans for the Ethan Allen Homestead; update on warrants report approval backlog. The board also discussed the issue of under payment from the City of Winooski.

Executive Session: Nick Warner requested the board enter Executive Session to discuss real estate matters involving a property that is privately owned and has not been discussed in the public domain before. The board discussed the need to enter Executive Session based on this information. Bridget O'Brien moved to find that premature general public knowledge regarding this real estate matter would clearly place the WVPD and/or other parties at a substantial disadvantage, because the Board of Trustees risks disclosing its negotiation strategy if it discusses the proposed property in public; seconded by Reid Willis. Reid Willis moved to enter Executive Session to discuss real estate matters under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes; seconded by George Tyler. The motion was unanimously approved. The board entered Executive Session at 5:28pm.

Reid Willis moved to exit Executive Session; seconded by George Tyler/Susan Gilfillan. The

motion was unanimously approved. The board exited Executive Session at 5:48pm.

Adjourn: Susan Gilfillan moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by George Tyler. The meeting adjourned at 5:50pm.

Next Meeting: April 16, 2023, at 4:30pm.

Meeting Minutes prepared by:

Lauren Chicote, Operations Manager