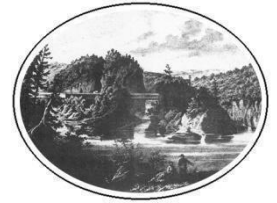




# Winooski Valley Park District

**Ethan Allen Homestead**  
Burlington, Vermont 05408

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## **Minutes for February 10, 2026, Board of Trustees for Winooski Valley Park District**

The meeting began at 4:33pm. Meeting was held both in person at the WVPD Offices at the Ethan Allen Homestead in Burlington and virtually via Zoom.

**Present: Via zoom:** Catherine Bock (Burlington), Susan Gilfillan (Colchester), Jeffery Theis (Essex), George Tyler (Essex Junction), Sonja Schuyler (Jericho), Larry Kupferman (South Burlington), Reid Willis (Williston), Bridget O'Brien (Winooski), Lauren Chicote (Operations Manager). **In Person at WVPD Office:** Nick Warner (Executive Director).

**Public Comment Period:** No members of the public present.

**Review and Accept Minutes from previous meetings:** The Board reviewed the minutes from the January 13, 2026, meeting. Larry Kupferman moved to accept the January minutes, seconded by Catherine Bock. The January minutes were unanimously accepted.

**Review and Accept Financial Reports:** Lauren Chicote presented the financial reports for July 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026, for FY2026. Lauren reported that the budget remains on track for this time in the fiscal year. Sonja Schuyler asked about updates on putting some funds into higher yield savings accounts or CDs, and information on the FDIC insurance limits. Susan Gilfillan moved to accept the financial report, seconded by Larry Kupferman. The financial report was unanimously accepted.

**Staff Updates:** Nick Warner updated the Board on several topics including Tim Larned attending the Burlington Parks Commission meeting to discuss an application for funding from the Burlington Conservation Legacy Fund to repair the Wetlands Walk North boardwalk at the Ethan Allen Homestead; WVPD working with consultant Dave Dore of Structural Integrity on review of financial policies and procedures supported by the Watershed United Vermont (WUV) Capacity grant; progress on updated new maps and signage for park information kiosks; the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission (GLFC) funding that would support acquisitions over the next two years; erosion control at Mayes Landing and Derway Cove; and an update on the Jacobs parcel in Williston.

**Strategic Plan Update:** Nick Warner and Lauren Chicote gave a brief update on the strategic plan. A draft was shared with the Board prior to the meeting. Carolyn Felix will incorporate additional feedback received and will present a final draft for approval at the March board meeting. The Board expressed their gratitude on the draft plan, the process and working with Carolyn, and enthusiasm for the state of the current draft.

**Executive Session:** The Board discussed the need to enter Executive Session and deemed it necessary as the discussion topic is related to three separate real estate/acquisition matters that have not been previously discussed in the public domain. Larry Kupferman motioned to find that premature general public knowledge regarding the three real estate matters would clearly place WVPD at a substantial disadvantage, because the Board of Trustees risks disclosing its negotiation strategy if it discusses the proposed contract terms in public. The motion was seconded by George Tyler and unanimously accepted. George Tyler then motioned that the

Board enter into Executive Session to discuss the three real estate matters under the provisions of Title 1, V.S.A. Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes. The motion was seconded by Larry Kupferman/Reid Willis and unanimously approved. The board entered Executive Session at 5:10pm.

The Board exited Executive Session at 5:52pm with a motion from Susan Gilfillan, seconded by Larry Kupferman/George Tyler. No actions were taken during the Executive Session.

**Adjourn:** Susan Gilfillan motioned to adjourn, seconded by Larry Kupferman/Catherine Bock. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 5:53pm.

**Next Meeting:** March 10, 2025, at 4:30pm.

**Meeting Minutes prepared by:** Lauren Chicote, Operations Manager, February 13, 2026.

**Minutes Approved by WVPD Board of Trustees:** March 10, 2026