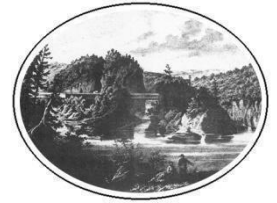




# Winooski Valley Park District

Ethan Allen Homestead  
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**DRAFT**

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

The meeting began at 4:34pm. Meeting was held both in person at the WVPD Offices at the Ethan Allen Homestead in Burlington and virtually via Zoom.

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

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

**Change to Agenda:** Due to board members needing to leave early the Executive Session was moved up to the beginning of the agenda.

**Executive Session:** The Board discussed the need to enter Executive Session and deemed it necessary as the discussion topic is related to four 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 four 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 Jeffrey Theis/Bridget O'Brien and unanimously accepted. Larry Kupferman then motioned that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss the four 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 Reid Willis and unanimously approved. The board entered Executive Session at 4:37pm.

The Board exited Executive Session at 5:00pm with a motion from Larry Kupferman, seconded by George Tyler. Bridget O'Brien motion to extend the Operations Agreement Addendum Two between the WVPD and Ethan Allen Homestead Museum signed June 26, 2025, on a month-to-month basis through August 31, 2026. The motion was seconded by Larry Kupferman/Reid Willis, and unanimously approved.

**Review and Accept Minutes from previous meetings:** The Board reviewed the minutes from the February 10, 2026, meeting and noted a minor typo. Larry Kupferman moved to accept the February minutes with corrections to the typo, seconded by George Tyler. The February minutes were unanimously accepted.

**Review and Accept Financial Reports:** Lauren Chicote presented the financial reports for July 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026, for FY2026. Lauren reported that the budget remains on track for this time in the fiscal year, however early projections indicate a potential deficit due to not receiving all of the anticipated budgeted income. A recently awarded grant from the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission (GLFC) to support staff capacity and acquisition planning, will help make up for this. Year-end projects will be included in next month's financial report. George Tyler moved to accept the financial reports, seconded by Reid Willis. The financial reports were

unanimously accepted.

**Staff Updates:** Nick Warner updated the Board on several topics including the GLFC grant; receiving a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for updates to the interior of the barn building at the Ethan Allen Homestead; erosion control project at Mayes Landing and Derway Cove; and required ethics training for municipal leaders and boards. Lauren Chicote shared footage from a wildlife camera at the Ethan Allen Homestead that captured a pair of river otters earlier this month.

**Adjourn:** Larry Kupferman motioned to adjourn, seconded by Georg Tyler/Jeffrey Theis. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 5:24pm.

**Next Meeting:** April 14, 2025, at 4:30pm.

**Meeting Minutes prepared by:** Lauren Chicote, Operations Manager, March 24, 2026.

**Minutes Approved by WVPD Board of Trustees:**