

*Village of Woodstock
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 11, 2022
6:30 pm
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes*

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Jeffrey Kahn, Seton McIlroy, Daphne Lowe, Brenda Blakeman, Bill Corson, William Kerbin, Nikki Nourse, Jill Davies, Frank Horneck, Tess Hunter, Ray Bourgeois, Gary Patterson, Beth Finlayson, Ben Halley, Police Chief Robbie Blish

A. Call to order

1. Chair Kahn called the Village Trustees meeting of January 11, 2022, to order at 6:30 pm.

B. Interview for Planning Commission

1. Frank Horneck

- a. Mr. Horneck stated that prior to moving to Vermont, he was the development officer and technology director for a hospitality group. He was responsible for the strategic direction, operation, information technology and construction. He focused heavily on sustainability, green energy, and building products. He wants to use his expertise from the past to help maintain the beauty and charm that Woodstock has.

2. Nico Seldon – tabled.

C. Citizens Comments – none.

D. Additions to & deletions from posted agenda

1. Additions
 - a. Mask Mandate
 - b. Investment Advisory Committee Report

E. Manager's Report

1. General report

- a. Mr. Kerbin stated that Chair Kahn, Ms. McIlroy, Mary Riley, and Mr. Bourgeois all met with Charlie Kimbell and Allison Clarkson a week ago to get an update on ARPA and infrastructure money. They did not get too much out of the meeting. There is not a lot of information at this point. It was recommended that they set up a meeting with Katie Buckley who is the ARPA Coordinator sometime in February. This would be a joint meeting. There have been updates on what they can use the ARPA money for. One of the updates is that it can be used for façade improvements. Negotiations are starting with the Town Employees Union. Ms. McIlroy is going to join the negotiation team. They will be meeting next Tuesday morning. Joe Swanson is going to represent the Select Board.

2. Financial report

- a. Mr. Kerbin stated that the tax revenue is at 0. This needs to be moved over from the Town. The auditor will tell us when to move that over.

F. Police Chief's report

1. Chief Blish stated that the meters continue to be working fine. The kiosk company came up and performed some service on them and did software upgrades. They fixed the battery issue we were having with the kiosks. They gave us a battery charger free of charge to keep. This way they always have a set of batteries fully charged.

G. Permits

1. Parade permits

a. Wassail Parade – Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce

b. Taste of Woodstock – Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce

- i. Ms. Finlayson stated that this is the same permit as last year. The event will be from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm on Elm Street.

2. Use of the Green permits

a. Wassail Weekend – Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce

- i. Ms. Finlayson stated that they are trying to expand Wassail Weekend in some way. They are asking for the 9th, 10th, and 11th. They will be doing horse wagon rides Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for about a three hour period. It worked well this year for Saturday and Sunday. They will work with Chief Blish with any other requests.

b. Woodstock Festival – Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce

c. Market on the Green – Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce

- i. This event will be the same.

3. Sidewalk/Event permits

a. Sidewalk Sale Days 5/27-5/29 – Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce

- i. Ms. Finlayson stated that they have had some merchants ask for three days for sidewalk sales as opposed to two days. It would be Friday to Sunday.

b. Sidewalk Sale Days 8/19-8/21 – Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce

- i. Chair Kahn suggested that the Sidewalk Sales remain just Friday and Saturday. There are not many participants.

Motion: by Chair Kahn to approve all permits as submitted by the Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce with the condition that the Sidewalk Sale Days in May and August be for Friday and Saturday only.

Seconded: by Ms. McIlroy.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

H. New business

1. Investment Advisory Committee Report

- a. Ms. Davies shared a presentation (included in the minutes).

2. Recommendation for ballot language for retail cannabis

- a. Ms. McIlroy stated that the ballot language has to be simple. They will discuss this more at the next meeting.

3. East End Park discussion

- a. Chair Kahn stated that some of the Trustees met at East End Park along with one of the neighbors, Ben Jervey. He and his partner own much of the road and some of the property near East End Park. One proposal is they could apply to use part of the grant that is associated with the South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Plant

Project to acquire approximately one acre of land owned by the Woodstock Resort Corporation. Mr. Jervey proposed that he would like to put townhouses on the river side of that road. He offered if they owned the property, he could use part of the land that is not in the flood plane for parking spots.

I. Other business

1. Mask Mandate

- a. Ms. McIlroy stated that last month the Trustees decided to print up signs and hand them to businesses in the Village in hopes that it would encourage people without a mandate to wear masks. There was a mixed result. She got a lot of positive responses. They need to protect the health and safety of residents and visitors. Ms. McIlroy shared a report from the Vermont Department of Public Affairs. The number of cases of covid has gone up. The number of hospitalizations has gone up. Last month the daily case count was 112. Today the daily average is 1,071. The seven day average has increased 128%. Test positivity has increased 117% over the last seven days. This is largely due to Omicron. It is much more contagious than previous variants. Vermont reported 2,711 more cases this week compared to last week. Schools have been testing students, but they are running out of tests.
- b. Chair Kahn stated that they are not in a state of emergency in the State.

Motion: by Ms. McIlroy to pass a mask requirement for indoor public places in the Village to expire February 8, 2022.

Seconded: by Mr. Corson.

Discussion: Chair Kahn stated that they cannot enforce it. He believes everyone who is going to wear a mask is wearing a mask at this time.

Mr. Corson stated that he sees people in the Village not wearing masks indoors including employees. Mandate and requirement mean the same thing. It is irresponsible to not put a mandate down at least for 30 days for a trial. It is the right step.

Vote: 4-1-0, passed. (Chair Kahn for, Ms. McIlroy for, Ms. Lowe for, Mr. Corson for, Ms. Blakeman against).

J. Executive session to discuss contract

Motion: by Mr. Corson to enter executive session to discuss a contract at 7:53 pm.

Seconded: by Ms. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

The Village Trustees exited executive session at 8:10 pm and resumed the public meeting.

Motion: by Chair Kahn to enter into contract with Sunset Farms Condominium lot for ten events that we will supply \$1,000 for this coming summer season from May through October, and for funds to be drawn from the Village Parking Fund, and that we name Sunset Farm Condominium Association co-insured for liability on the use of the parking lot.

Seconded: by Ms. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

Motion: by Ms. McIlroy to appoint Frank Horneck to the Planning Commission.

Seconded: by Ms. Lowe.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

K. Approval of minutes

1. 12/14/21 minutes

Motion: by Ms. McIlroy to approve the minutes for 12/14/21 as submitted.

Seconded: by Ms. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

L. Adjournment

Motion: by Mr. Corson to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Seconded: by Chair Kahn.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

Respectfully submitted,

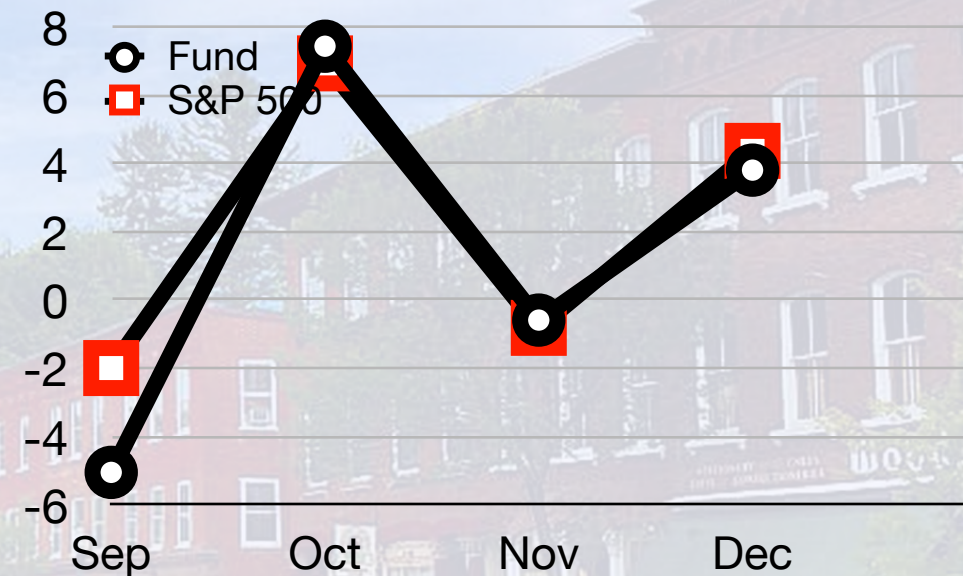
Nikki Nourse

Woodstock Rockefeller Endowment Fund

Status Report Ending December 31st, 2021

- Fund total includes \$110,941 allocated to the VCLF
- Asset portion of the fund is allocated at 60% equities, and 40% bonds
- Asset allocations were rebalanced in July 2021
- Equities have outperformed S&P 500 for 2 of the past 4 months
- Bonds have outperformed Bloomberg Index for 2 of the past 4 months
- Fund total value as of December 31, 2021: \$2,176,964 (change of +2.9% since August 31, 2021)
- Fund continues to demonstrate stable growth in line with market trends

Equities % Change
08/2021-12/2022



Bond % Change 08/2021-12/2022

