

**Village of Woodstock  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
June 16, 2022  
6:30 pm  
Town Hall & Zoom  
Minutes**

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Seton McIlroy, Jeffrey Kahn, Brenda Blakeman, Bill Corson, Gabe DeLeon, Tom Yennerell, Nikki Nourse, Jon Spector, Alita Wilson, Deborah Greene, Jill Davies, John Hiers, Karim Houry, Zoie Parent, Steven Bauer, Peggy Fraser, Mary MacVey, Joe DiNatale, Laura Powell, Brad Lawrence, Ellen LeFever, Peggy Fraser

**A. Call to order**

1. Chair McIlroy called the Trustees Meeting of June 16, 2022, to order at 6:30 pm.

**B. Citizen comments**

1. Ms. Fraser stated that she lives at 81 Central Street. She expressed her concern about what happened on Tuesday. As an immediate neighbor of these horrible events, they were not informed in any way of what was going on. Her neighbor who is 94 years old called her because she heard the gun shots. She told her that there was an active shooter and they needed to get inside and stay inside. Her other neighbor who has little children was never contacted. The Town & Village need to reexamine protocols. She felt extremely vulnerable. They listened for gunshots until at least 11:00 pm.
  - a. Mr. Kahn stated that the Police Chief is away on vacation. They are going to meet with him when he gets back and come up with a protocol that is understood by all. He stated he has been here 50 years. Nothing quite like this has happened before. They need to have a process in place.

**C. Additions to & deletions from posted agenda**

1. Addition – MOU between the Village & East End Park
2. Deletion – Police Chief's Report

**D. Planning Commission Interviews**

**1. Laura Powell**

- a. Ms. Powell stated that she just moved to Woodstock in January, but they have been living in the Upper Valley since June of 2021. Her husband was born and raised in Pomfret and went to Woodstock High School. She wants to be able to make a change. This is a lovely community. There is a balance needed between preserving the history and figuring out what is next for the Town and Village and the next generation of people living here.

**2. Brad Lawrence**

- a. Mr. Lawrence stated that he has lived in Woodstock since 2018. He has three kids. They are here to stay. He wants to get involved in the Town. He wants to have input and do his part to try to keep the Town

running the best way it can. He has been to one meeting. He will make sure to listen to everyone's concerns and make the best choices to move forward. Change is hard for some people. He needs to listen to people's fears. Things cannot stay the same forever. They have to adjust. The Town is growing and developing. The Town is bringing in more visitors than it has the capacity to handle. Currently he is a distributor for air conditioning. He has had the same job for 17 years.

**E. Finance Committee Interviews**

**1. Jon Spector**

a. Mr. Spector stated that he has owned a house in Woodstock for 25 years. He has lived here full-time for eight years. He has some good experience to bring to the Finance Committee. He has an MBA. He has served on two other finance committees. He is currently the chair of the finance committee at Northern Stage in White River Junction. He is familiar with NEMRC. He wants to make it easier for Town staff to do their work. They have an enormous workload that could be helped.

**2. Karim Houry**

a. Mr. Houry stated that he has been living in Woodstock for four years. He and his wife Isabel own the Woodstocker Bed & Breakfast. He has an MBA in finance. He has 30 years' experience in financial services. He has finance and process engineering experience. He was on the Cannabis Committee. He was on the Sewer Committee. He was also part of the Woodstock Area Relief Fund during covid. He advocated for alternate sources of revenue and some of them went through. He would like to have reports that show actuals against budget and forecasts. He thinks that it would be extremely helpful for the Village and the Town. He attended many budget meetings for the Village and the Town.

**3. Ellen LeFever**

a. Ms. LeFever has a background in finance and worked on budgets for departments.

**F. Manager's report**

**1. General report**

a. Mr. Yennerell stated that he met with staff about our ability to maintain Teagle's Landing and we do have that ability. They are not going to have to hire summer help this year. The guy who did that work last year did it on a part-time basis. He has become a full-time employee in the Sewer Department. Elijah Lemieux feels that this individual will have the time to do this summer work, so they do not have to hire somebody new. That will be good on the budget. It will not impede any of the work he is doing now at the wastewater plant.

b. Mr. Kahn stated that Ms. Blakeman volunteered to clean up Teagle's Landing the other day. She should be consulted regarding the work that needs to be done there.

**2. Financial report**

- a. Mr. DeLeon inquired about the need for thermal paper.
  - i. Ms. Parent stated that it is required by the State of Vermont in the Town Clerk's Office for marriage certificates.
- b. Mr. Kahn stated that he is concerned about short-term rentals. They have \$750 which would indicate 10 short term rentals. His concern is that they have far more than that going on.

G. Police Chief's report – deleted

H. Permits

1. Use of the Green permits

- a. Solar Showcase – Sustainable Woodstock
  - i. Mr. Kahn stated that this is not a new event. It was done during the Taste of Woodstock on the Village Green.

**Motion:** by Chair Kahn to approve the use of the Green permit for Solar Showcase as submitted by Sustainable Woodstock.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Corson.

**Discussion:** none.

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

- b. Casual Breakfast Gathering – tabled.
- c. TEDx Innovator's Showcase – TEDx
  - i. Ms. Greene stated that she is talking with Billings Farm about having the actual talks there. It is in the works. There are tickets to see the different speakers. 2/3 of the speakers will be from Vermont. 1/3 of them will be bigger names coming in to speak. They will focus on community building topics. For example, how to bring communities together and how to respect the history and also be current with the times. The Innovator's Showcase on the Green will be free to the public all weekend long.
  - ii. Mr. Kahn stated that this is during busy foliage season. They may need to coordinate with food vendors on the Green.

**Motion:** by Chair McIlroy to approve the use of the Green permit for TEDx Innovator's Showcase as submitted pending date and insurance.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Kahn.

**Discussion:** Chair McIlroy stated that by the end of the month insurance and finalized date are needed.

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

2. Food of the Green – Trees & Seeds

- a. Mr. Hiers stated that they have been on the Green in the past. They are looking to provide breakfasts and lunches on Sundays and Mondays when it is needed. Their dates are flexible at this time. They are a nonprofit. They are partnering with the Woodstock High School. They provide service projects in the United States and around the world. This helps finance students at the High School with their trip fundraising.
- b. Ms. Finlayson stated that it was very successful last year.

**Motion:** by Chair McIlroy to approve the food on the Green permit for Trees & Seeds as submitted pending insurance.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Kahn.

**Discussion:** Chair McIlroy stated that they need to provide insurance by the end of the month.

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

3. East End Park permits

a. Music by the River Series – Pentangle

**Motion:** by Chair McIlroy to approve the East End Park permit for Music by the River Series as submitted by Pentangle with the function fee of \$1,350, parking fee of \$900, and security deposit of \$300.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Kahn.

**Discussion:** none.

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

b. Sustainable Woodstock – tabled.

I. Old business

1. Maintenance of Teagle's Landing

a. Ms. Blakeman stated that she enjoyed weeding down at Teagle's Landing this past weekend. It was not as bad as it had been described on List Serve. It was rather neat and tidy. It just needed a little bit of maintenance and weeding. She and Mr. Kahn moved the tables around. It is a lovely spot for people to hang out. She would like to look into adopt a park for the community. It is a really wonderful program that tries to get people to work together and improve their parks. It allows people to have ownership and pride in the different parks that they have in their area.

b. Ms. Fraser asked if Woodstock is a smoke free zone?

c. Chair McIlroy stated that the parks are. They can look into if they can make the same rule apply to sidewalks.

d. Ms. Finlayson stated that she could pit in on the website if an ordinance is passed.

2. Food for Sundays & Mondays discussion

a. Ms. Finlayson stated that they have four new restaurants that are open Sunday and/or Monday. Sante will be opening June 20<sup>th</sup>. They will be open for lunch and dinner. Dr. Coburn's is open on Sunday. Woodstock Scoops has grab and go and is open seven days a week.

b. Chair McIlroy stated that she agrees to not allow food trucks, but to allow food vendors on the Green Sundays and Mondays.

3. Discussion of naming policy – tabled

J. Other business

1. MOU with East End Park

a. Mr. Kahn stated that Ms. MacVey and her team created a strategic plan for oversight going forward regarding volunteers, transitional times, and the municipal's part in taking care of the park.

**Motion:** by Mr. Kahn to take on the proper lawn fertilization of the East End Park beginning with their July 1<sup>st</sup> fiscal year and that they will work with the Trustee of Public Funds to pay for that necessary fertilization through that funding process.

**Seconded:** by Chair McIlroy.

**Discussion:** none.

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

K. Executive session to discuss appointments

**Motion:** by Ms. McIlroy to enter executive session at 9:25 pm to discuss appointments.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Kahn.

**Discussion:** none.

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

The Trustees left executive session and resumed the public meeting at 9:28 pm.

L. Approval of minutes

1. 5/10/22 minutes

a. G4 – add s

b. H9 – add s

2. 5/31/22 joint minutes

3. 6/3/22 joint minutes

**Motion:** by Chair McIlroy to approve the minutes for 5/10/22, 5/31/22, and 6/3/22 with the two corrections noted above.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Kahn.

**Discussion:** none.

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

M. Adjournment

**Motion:** by Mr. Kahn to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 pm.

**Seconded:** by Chair McIlroy.

**Discussion:** none.

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nikki Nourse