

Town & Village of Woodstock
Select Board & Bord of Trustees Joint Meeting
August 28th 2024
8:15AM
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Ray Bourgeois, Susan Ford, Greg Fullerton, Laura Powell, Chair Seton Mclroy, Jeffrey Kahn, Brenda Blakeman, Frank Horneck, Lisa Lawlor, Eric Duffy, Stephanie Appelfeller

A. Call to order

1. Trustees

- a. Seton Mclroy called the joint meeting of August 28th to order at 8:15AM.

2. Select Board

- a. Susan Ford called the joint meeting of August 28th to order at 8:15AM.

B. Additions & deletions from agenda - none

C. Citizen comments – none.

D. Discussion

Discussion Trustee and Selectboard yearly goals

Eric begins with an overview of the goals. Focusing on what the boards want the community to be, what they want the future to look like, and how the boards want the community to view the next year to five years of Woodstock. The goals will be what the Town Hall staff and the community focuses on, and what the committees should focus on.

Key goals identified include housing development, increased efficiencies through online permitting software, Health and safety and improving communication was a large priority to the discussion.

- Goals will be directed to various committees and commissions, such as the Planning Commission, to ensure focus and efficiency.
- The acquisition of the Woodstock Aqueduct Company was highlighted for its multifaceted benefits, including fire flow improvement and economic development.
- The need for a comprehensive approach to health and safety, including crisis communication and public notification
- The importance of communication as a priority, with suggestions for improving both online and print communication methods
- The potential for climate resiliency to be a major goal, given Woodstock's flood history

The board discusses the need for a clear focus on overall goals before drilling down into specific projects

Discussion on managing tourism as a sub goal under large categories such as economic development and climate resiliency

The importance of improving conditions for new and existing businesses with regards to staffing shortage, lack of housing for employees and infrastructure

Jefferey Kahn discussed the need for better communication with the public, including second homeowners which make up 40% of Woodstock population.

The importance of making the process of addressing public concerns more efficient and transparent, the idea was discussed of having a board member at a public place for example the market on the green to answer questions from the public

The potential in the next year for improving the sound system at the Town Hall main conference room to improve meeting quality to increase public engagement.

The three main goals identified are housing development, increased efficiencies and effectiveness, and affordability.

Eric Duffy and Stephanie Appelfeller will put goals together and present at the next meeting.

The board will have their next meeting on September 5th 2024 at 8:15AM

E. Adjournment

1. Trustees

Motion: Jeffery Kahn to adjourn the meeting at 9:06AM.

Seconded: by Lisa Lawlor

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

2. Select Board

Motion: Susan Ford to adjourn the meeting at 9:06AM

Seconded: by Chair Bourgeois

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kitty Mears Koar*