

**Dover Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Dover Town Office
Tuesday, April 23, 2019**

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE DOVER SELECT BOARD

Select Board members present: Josh Cohen, Victoria Capitani, Joe Mahon, Sarah Shippee

Select Board members not present: Dan Baliotti

Also, present: Office Manager, Jeannette Eckert

Public: Lauren Harkawik, Bob Holland, Maggie Lewis, Randy Johnson, Steve Neratko, Jim & Judy McDevitt, Tom Hoskins, Mike Garber, Tabi Freedman, Rich Werner

Regular Meeting Called to Order at 6:30pm by Chair Josh Cohen

I. Public Comments:

Randy Johnson: FYI: recent VLCT weekly legislative update with article about taxing and regulating cannabis use; starting July 1, towns can vote to opt out; changes to zoning bylaws if cannabis is allowed; request the Board to review it and all VLCT updates

Maggie Lewis: invitation to free concert at the Gathering Place Wednesday; Open house on May 16th from 4-6pm, all are welcome to celebrate 1-year anniversary

Sarah Shippee: As a member of WRC rec'd a letter on forming energy committees in towns; reaching out to gage interest

Tabi Freedman: A survey is being circulated gathering information on energy efficiencies which she will forward to the Board

II. Highway: Bob Holland

A. Maintaining/Replacing Trees on Valley Trail

- Dead trees on the Trail up by Swiss Alps, which is also by the Park; trees were put in when the trail was created; some of them died; should they be replaced?
- Rich Werner had the original contract to care for the trees; trees were not cut from the root bag; think they will continue to die as they are being throttled by the roots
- Bazin Bros. had the original contract, not sure who did the planting
- Believe they should be replaced; Bob to obtain quotes from various sources on replacement
- Where will the funds come from? Not Highway, ED? Board will consider
- Request photos of trees coming out and new ones going in
- Smaller trees would be better to allow them to grow in and hopefully last longer
- Jeannette will research who put in those original trees

III. Emergency Mgmt.:

A. Local Emergency Mgmt. Plan

- Had a good meeting back in March with 23 people in attendance; thanks to Vicki and Sarah for attending, folks from the community as well
- Will try to hold another one in late summer, early fall; some sections of the plan can be expanded
 - Contractor list
 - I-9, W-4, certificates of insurance forms for each contractor
- Will continue to update yearly
- VT Alert training—would like to involve more people in this

**Dover Select Board
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Dover Town Office
Tuesday, April 23, 2019**

On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Sarah Shippee, the Board unanimously agreed to sign the LEMP adoption form dated April 23, 2019

IV. Economic Development:

A. Barrel Program – Award RFP

- Three-year program this year
- One bid rec'd from Boyd Family Farm
- Came in at \$22,218.89 for 2019; \$22,441.08 (2020), \$22,665.49 (2021)
- Same program as in year's past but with more barrel locations

Vicki suggests adding a statement to the contract to accept it pending Dover still has the 1% local option tax in the years 2020, 2021 and be initialed by both parties

On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Sarah Shippee, the Board unanimously accepted three-year flower barrel bid from Boyd Family Farm as quoted with the additional statement

B. Bi Town Charge

- Committee has had trouble getting a quorum; 15 members so needed 8 present for a quorum; this will now be brought down to 7
- Vicki updated the membership portion of the charge
 - Remove Hermitage Club
 - And add a Wilmington business instead
 - Mt Snow is the Dover business
 - How to deal with vacant seats; some members have not attended in 2 years
 - Filling open seats: request interested persons to attend 3 meetings; Recommendations put forward to each town for approval
- Wilmington approved the charge at their previous meeting
- Originally were three towns including Whitingham; funding had become an issue

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Josh Cohen, the Board unanimously approved 2019 Bi-Town Charge with changes as described by Vicki

C. Approve Do-It Application

- Program opens May 1 to May 31
- Applications to be available next week
- Basically, the same as last year except signage portion which will be separate and available year round
- Rebate 75%, up to \$4500 on a \$6000 project
- Majority of last year's projects are completed
- \$50,000 budgeted for DO-IT
- \$15,000 for signage
- Last year spent about \$66,000
- People are already expressing interest for this year

On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Sarah Shippee, the Board unanimously approved the DO-IT application as amended

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- D. Thomas Hoskins – Brief introduction to his television project
- New resident to Dover, building a home here for full time residency after 20 years in NYC, presented a power point overview of his proposed project
 - Background in TV, Marketing and Media
 - Been in the TV business for many years producing and hosting several shows; involved in many community projects including NY Presbyterian Hospital; large charity events
 - Desires to produce one more TV show; Team researched where to go with the show to be known as “Happy Dogs Show”
 - Vermont came to mind for its quality of life for both humans and dogs
 - First looked at Florida location but just wasn’t right
 - Split up the Vermont communities and met up with Philip Waller who introduced Dover as a great place to be and it felt good; also looked at Stratton, Bennington, Burlington
 - Desires to make Dover a forever home
 - TV studio environment here in VT that people will come to; looking to shoot on location in June; home base to be in Dover; live studio audience 4 times a month; 5000 square foot building
 - Great opportunity to have year-round business with other venues here
 - Promoting weekend visits to Dover for shooting on Saturdays
 - Reaching out thru PBS for free tickets to come, bring your dogs and visit the show
 - 150 people in the studio who will also be staying for the weekend, dining etc.
 - Revenue generated through big, national sponsorships
 - Established in this business for a long time
 - Vision is to incorporate other activities throughout the year: snowboarding, cycling; taping and doing events here; building could also to be used for town events— political, community, charity; events throughout the State as well in a brand-new facility in Dover
 - Working on grants from the State; Dover would be the center piece
 - Education and apprenticeship opportunities to learn about production and TV business
 - Create jobs in Dover: administrative, customer service, internet savvy people
 - Goal is to be busy all times of the year
 - Considering the name “Dover Entertainment Studios”
 - Repeat annual sporting events for long-term year-round revenue
 - Happy Dogs 30-minute segments looks like this:
 - Pre-show warm up
 - Opening with host Tom Hoskins
 - Healthy Dogs expert advice from dog vets
 - Dog Gone Cooking--healthy dog meals with co-host Neal Jackman
 - Happy Dogs fashion—looking pretty
 - Are you ready for a dog?
 - Celebrities and their dogs
 - Happy Dogs Global News

**Dover Select Board
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Tuesday, April 23, 2019**

Next Steps:

- April 15 through May 15—structuring of block pricing, request for grant support; Responding to grants requests
- April 15 through May 30--Production development process
- Week of July 1—first pilot show
- Looking at 2020—complete construction of building
- Thanks to Steve Neratko, Philip & Suzanne Waller, Ray Reed, Joseph Cincotta & Julie Lineberger of LineSync Architecture for all their assistance in the project

Comments:

As a former New Yorker, will there be public access to studio?

- *Yes, great way to bring everyone down from the mountain; sponsors are paying for this; everything done out of that building is free and open to general public*
- *Kids days with dogs to learn about TV*
- *Doors to swing open to the outside to allow for outdoor seating*
- *Categories of businesses to lock in with us and make annual events*
- *Special needs access at Mt Snow; inviting Special Olympics to come here*
- *Multi use building; transformable to be used for everything; good for Dover, County and State*

Effect on public safety?

- *Only a 5000 square foot building; not anticipating 1000's of people but let that be my worst worry to need to go to a bigger building*
- *Would like building to be used 7 days a week*
- *Envision inns and hotels & restaurants booming with business all year round*

Will rescue dogs be involved in Happy Dogs Show? Tabi is involved in Greater Good Weimaraner Rescue that is based in Dover

- *Would love to learn more about that program!*

Challenges faced?

- *Thought there would be more obstacles, but it has been incredibly easy*
- *Always have a plan B and C but feel very good about the area*
- *Capital support is biggest challenge; want to tape all over the state; all the building is going to do above and beyond*
- *Hopefully its very convincing to the State as well*
- *Funding from the State; want to do this big right from the start*
- *National Television recognition, that's why PBS is great*
- *POD casts will be promoted right away*
- *Steve is the point person and conduit for the grants*
- *It will be a "for profit" business*
- *This is a creative business that everyone will benefit from; Want to share the wealth*
- *Will update location site of studio soon—it is on point for what we need to feel part of the community*
- *Open to hearing other ideas about how to use Dover Entertainment Studios—it is for the whole community*

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V. Consent Agenda:

- A. Approve Minutes of April 2, 2019
On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Josh Cohen, the Board voted 3-0-1 to approve the minutes of April 2. (Shippee abstained)

- B. Approve Warrants of April 6, 2019 for \$194,106.79 & April 20, 2019 for \$161,187.99
On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Sarah Shippee, the Board unanimously approved the warrants of April 6 and April 20, 2019

VI. FYI:

- A. Thank you Letter from HCRS for Appropriation
- B. Upcoming ICS 402 Courses: April 30 in Montpelier, May 7 in Rutland, May 9 in Bennington
- C. Southern VT Economy Summit, May 23rd at Mt Snow
- D. Governmental Accounting & Auditing Symposium, May 29 in Fairlee
- E. *VT Cemetery Association meeting May 9 in Montpelier—Vicki, Andy McLean and Patsy Bemis will be attending; limited open space in Dover cemeteries; need to be thinking forward about caretaking, available space
Josh mentioned that the Boy Scouts are willing & able to help with clean up at cemeteries*
- F. *Sarah attended ED summit in Burke and has materials available*
- G. *Trails Meeting by invitation only—May 2—contact Steve if interested in participating*

VII. Liaison Reports: Library has lost another Trustee: Cynthia Cohen

VIII. Executive Session for Legal Matters (Steve Neratko)

On a motion by Josh Cohen, seconded by Joe Mahon, the Board unanimously agreed to move into Executive Session for Legal Matters at 7:36pm

Present: All four Board members, Steve Neratko

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Josh Cohen, the Board unanimously agreed to move out of Executive Session for Legal Matters at 8:12pm

Decision: None, Steve will keep the Board posted on the contractual matter

IX. Adjournment at 8:12pm

Respectfully submitted by Jeannette Eckert

Public notices of these minutes have been posted at the following locations:
Dover Town Clerk's Bulletin Board, Dover Town Meeting Bulletin Board, Dover School
Dover Free Library, East Dover Post Office, Town of Dover Website: www.doververmont.com