



Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting

Meeting Minutes

June 26th, 2020 9:00-11:00am
Teleconference meeting on Zoom

Attendees: Gianna Petito, Kristen Balschunat, Rick Hopkins, Jeff Cueto, Rich Turner, Russ Barret
Mike Raboin

9:00 Meeting Called to Order

9:03 NRCS Updates Recap: The Berlin office may move to Phase 2 opening soon (meaning clients will be allowed to enter the office with an appointment, will be provided masks when they enter and places they touch will be sanitized after their visit.) Further opening in the Williston office is unlikely anytime soon due to recent breakouts in covid in Chittenden county. The questionnaire for local working groups will be released in August and will likely be due in October.

9:12 NRCC Updates: Council would like their meetings to become more than just a check-in/roundtable. They plan to send a survey to Districts to ask about how they see Council's role in assisting. A new finance manager has been hired who is currently working part time and will transition to full time soon.

9:10 Supervisor and Staff Sharing: Rich mentioned that he's taken a new job with the VA, which has taken lots of his time but has been very fulfilling. Rick mentioned that the cross VT trail is moving forward with building a bridge over the Winooski River in Montpelier. Russ mentioned that he is looking forward to the Northfield CC training with WNRCD. Rick acknowledged Kristen's presentation at Council about racial equity.

9:15 Minutes: Rich motions to approve the minutes from the May 2020 meeting. Seconded by Russ. All in favor. Motion passes.

9:17 Financial Updates:

- Motion by Jeff to approve the financial report. Second by Russ. All in favor. Motion passes.

9:20 Racial Equity Work Summary Kristen shared about her learnings from the Food Solutions New England Racial Equity Challenge. She also shared the topics of the 5 state-wide working groups that will be researching how to create greater racial equity in our conservation work.

9:35 FY21 Budget Motion by Rich to approve the FY21 draft budget seconded by Russ. All in favor. Motion passes.

9:50 Strategic Plan Suggestion to make the plan a 5-year plan instead of 3-year. Suggestion to merge Strategic Plan with Action Steps. More detailed notes were taken by Gianna in the document "Strategic Plan Feedback." Jeff and Rick have volunteered to create a subcommittee to complete final edits and review the Strategic Plan so it can be up for approval at the next board meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, July 28, 2020 - 9am - Meeting in Berlin Outside WNRCD office - In case of poor weather, Zoom link will be provided later. Bring a lawn chair.

10:53 Adjourn Motion to adjourn by Rich. Seconded by Russ. All in favor. Motion passes.