

**Dover Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 15, 2020
Dover Town Hall**

**Please Note: content time is an estimate only
Please also note this meeting will take place at Dover Town Hall as well as via Zoom,
see sign in details below**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86800444071?pwd=RIU2WDQ0cDM3d3AwSGREeFNON2tnQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 0044 4071

Password: 052648

Dial in: 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 868 0044 4071

Password: 052648

Select Board present: Victoria Capitani, Sarah Shippee, Dan Baliotti, Joe Mahon

Also, present: Office Manager, Jeannette Eckert

Public present: Bob Holland, Eric Durocher, Marc Schaubert, Ruth Beck, Becky Arbella, Randy Johnson, Jim McDevitt, Travis Briggs, John Lyddy, Andy McLean & Rae, Scott Salway

Public via Zoom: Shannon Wheeler, Randy Capitani, Lauren Harkawik, TJ Sibilila

Regular Meeting Called to Order at 6:32pm by Vice Chair Vicki Capitani

I. Public Comments:

A. Green Mountain Conservative Group

- John Lyddy of Whitingham representing the group spoke on the topic of hate speech on Route 100 in West Dover
- At a meet and greet event at Layla's about 6 weeks ago, one of our members, Gary Sage, painted the letters MAGA on Route 100 (Make America Great Again)
- This act seemed to upset a lot of people. It was coupled with a number of other incidents that happened along Route 100 considered to be hate speech—Black Lives Matter and other phrases used
- Laura Sibilila contacted the Dover Police regarding the act. Ultimately, the words are still there. The Governor proclaimed that such political slogans would be allowed on State roadways and be tolerated.
- The group will be hosting other events which appear to be growing in size up to the November elections
- MAGA has been referred to as hate speech but it has been used by many political candidates including Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, Hilary Clinton, and Donald Trump in their campaigns
- Turning it around and referring to it as hate speech is a redefinition that implicates 65 million voters in this country of hate speech
- GMCG has been referred to as white supremacists or racists; we are not—so far from it and does not want to be thought of in this way
- Redefining people implicates people and creates anger that we are seeing in our streets today; hate level is so high we really can't allow it
- We as a group abhor hate speech
- We are not about that, it is counterproductive; we are responsible for finding out about exact legislation and how it helps the State, and supporting the candidates that we feel will do that; we have nothing to do with hate speech in this State or locally
- Understand that many people were upset; need to take a step back, take a deep breath. Now dealing with a bunch of bigger issues for the next 6-8 weeks
- Appreciate you taking the time to listen to me

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- Apologize for any misunderstandings; appreciate the tolerance
- Will be making sure that any future events will be within the boundaries of civility at all times

II. New Business:

A. Review Letters of Interest & Announce Appointment of New Select Board Member to Fill the Remainder of Josh Cohen's Term until March 2021

- Two candidates had submitted letters of interest: Scott Salway and Marc Schaubert
- Both are well qualified and good members of our community
- Both were thanked for coming forward

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board unanimously agreed to appoint Scott Salway to fill the remainder of Josh Cohen's term until March 2021

B. Swearing in of New Member

- Scott Salway accepted the appointment, was sworn in & given the oath of office by Jeannette Eckert & was able to take a seat on the Board

C. Re-Organize Board Appointments & Liaison Assignments

Jeannette requested a motion to re-organize the Board appointments and select a new Chair

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Joe Mahon, the Board unanimously agreed to nominate Vicki Capitani as Chair

- Vicki accepted the nomination

On a motion by Vicki Capitani, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board unanimously agreed to nominate Sarah Shippee as Vice Chair

- Sarah accepted the nomination

Josh Cohen's previous liaison assignments for the Highway Dept. and Dover Library were passed on to new member Scott Salway

D. Consider Benefit Concert by Seth Yacovone on Oct 10th, 2-4pm at Dover Park (Phil Bowen)

- Phil Bowen was hoping to be here to discuss
- Jeannette related that the concert is usually held at the Town Hall, unsure of the beneficiaries this year
- Requested feedback from the Board; seeking permission to use the Park; approached Econ Dev as well; not looking for any funding; seeking a venue to continue the event where social distancing and safety can be maintained
- Board deferred comment until later in the evening in hopes of hearing from Phil

E. Everyone Eats Program Update (Becky Arbella)

- Shires Housing is partnering with Wilmington Works on this project
- Commerce Dept. received \$5 million dollars funneled down thru SEVCA
- Will help restaurants as well as people; restaurants will be paid \$10.00 per meal and delivery/pick up will be arranged by volunteers
- Reached out to schools, daycares in the area
- Approved for 750 meals a week for twelve weeks

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- Looking into low sodium, low sugar meals as well; in order to take part in the program restaurants can choose what they prepare as long as it abides by nutrition guidelines and uses 10% of Vermont products
- Requesting use of Town Hall freezer for the 12-week period for overflow of meals; will be setting up weekly pick up location outside in parking lot
 - Other locations include East & West Dover, Whitingham, Readsboro, Jacksonville
- Already deliver to 36 people in the community once a month
- If anyone knows someone who could benefit from the meals, or would like to volunteer, please reach out to Becky
- No need to apply; anyone affected by Covid is eligible, which is pretty much everyone
- Will thoroughly clean and sanitize the freezer area when done

Board comments:

- Only concern is locking the freezer, believe there is a key
- There aren't many functions going on; it has been quiet
- How many days a week are meals being delivered?
 - *Monday thru Thursday*
- The freezer is less used than other appliances; just be aware that others may need to use it
- Sounds like a good program and feel the community will be better for it

III. Unfinished Business:

A. Revisit Restoration & Digitization Fund (Andy McLean)

- A letter was provided explaining the request
- The new law puts a bunch more money into the fund
- Requires that we account for all the money once a year
 - Never asked for that before; guessing they are looking for a funding source, see this as an easy way to get money.... but maybe I am paranoid
- Making a separate fund is not hurting anything; no downside to it
- Old fund is Restoration of Records; new one would be Restoration *and Digitization of Records*
- Increased the per page dollar amount that goes into the fund from \$1.00 to \$4.00
- Defrays the cost of increasing vault space, land record shelving, map cases
- Might be prudent for us to protect the \$110,000 that is already in the fund
- Only the Select board can create funds

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Joe Mahon, the Board unanimously agreed to establish a restoration and digitization fund under Andy McLean putting \$4.00 per page in the fund retroactive to July 1, 2019 which shall be separate from the restoration of records fund

Andy welcomed Scott and commended both he and Marc for their interest in stepping forward for public service

IV. Economic Development: Shannon Wheeler and Eric Durocher

A. Review/Approve Signage Grant Application

- Southern Vermont Realty Group is a new business applying for signage
- Application is complete except for a copy of sign permit from Tabi

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- Expecting that permit to be approved in near future
- Total project cost is \$4130.00
- Reimbursement requested is the max at \$2000.00

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board unanimously agreed to approve \$2000 grant for signage for Southern Vermont Realty Group subject to approval by Zoning and/or DRB as needed

B. Potential Formal Trails & Rec Committee Moving Forward?

- With the completion of the Weston and Sampson recreation plan, folks are excited to move forward
- There is no formal committee for this type of group to allow for public involvement
- Looking to establish a committee with warned meetings, minutes, etc.
- Would like the Board's input on how to go about creating the committee, seeking interested parties, nominations

Board comments:

- Need to get the word out that there are opportunities
- Should be Dover voters
- Create terms for the committee
 - Diverse, broad group of members from different backgrounds
- Good idea; make recommendations for nominations

Eric will develop further and get back to the Board

V. Consent Agenda:

A. Approve the Minutes of Sept 1, 2020 & Sept 8, 2020

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board voted 4-0-1 to approve the minutes of Sept 1, 2020 (Salway abstained)

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Joe Mahon, the Board voted 3-0-2 (Baliotti & Salway abstained)

B. Approve the Warrants of Sept 12, 2020 for \$218,161.81

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board voted 4-0-1 to approve the warrants of Sept 12, 2020 (Salway abstained)

VI. FYI:

- A. Town Hall Steeple Work Slated to Commence Week of Sept 21
- B. Virtual Town Fair, Sept 28-Oct 2; Register at www.vlct.org/townfair (Sarah has registered, Shannon, Eric and Jeannette are considering)
- C. Tentative Date for Employee Appreciation, Friday, **Oct 16th** 5-8pm—Details still in process

VII. Liaison Reports: Sarah Shippee relayed that the admin position opening at the Fire Dept has rec'd three applications; interviews will commence in the next week or two

Getting back to the Seth Yacavone concert: as Phil was still not present, Chair Capitani requested that he get in touch with her to discuss details rather than push it off to the next meeting; Vicki can then forward the information to the rest of the Board and affirm a decision at the next meeting

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On a motion by Joe Mahon, seconded by Sarah Shippee, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the request pending Vicki's discussion with Phil and receipt of details on the concert

VIII. Executive Sessions for Personnel (Travis Briggs) & Legal Matters

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board unanimously agreed to move into Executive Session for Personnel & Legal at 7:22 pm

Present: All five Board members

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Vicki Capitani, the Board unanimously agreed to move out of Executive Session for Personnel & Legal Matters at 7:57pm

Notes: Road Commissioner's salary and Legal Matter are ongoing

IX. Adjournment at 7:58pm

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