

JOHNSON SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

Present:

Selectboard Members: Mike Dunham, Doug Molde, Kyle Nuse, Eric Osgood

Others: Brian Story, Rosemary Audibert, Brian Krause, Scott Meyer, Kim Dunkley, Shayne Spence, Athena Parke, Lois Frey, Denise Ashman, Steve Hatfield, Rick Aupperlee, Gannon Osborn, Mollie Flanigan, Kate Wanner, Eric Hutchins, Cal Stanton, Adelle MacDowell, Diane Lehouillier, Eben Patch, Gordy Smith, Jackie Stanton, Charles Gallanter, Jane Nuse, Jasmine Yuris, Kelly Vandorn, Margo Warden, Walter Pomroy, Sophia Berard, Brian Vandorn, Louise Cross, Joie Lehouillier, Lea Kilvadyova, Kyle Hill, Marla Emery, Howard Romero

Selectboard members absent: Nat Kinney,

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

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1. Call to Order

Eric called the meeting to order at 7:00.

2. Additions, Changes to Agenda

It was noted that the agenda incorrectly listed minutes from September 23 when the date should have been September 21.

3. Review and Approve Minutes of Meetings Past

Mike moved and Kyle seconded to approve the minutes of September 8 and September 21, 2020. Doug said he hadn't seen any alterations to the September 8 minutes. Donna said she had forgotten the board had asked for changes and hadn't done them yet. Mike and Kyle agreed to the friendly amendment to drop the September 8 minutes from the motion. Doug said he thought the September 21 minutes had already been approved. Brian said there was a question about a statement by Willie Noyes at the Board of Health meeting. It is only the Board of Health minutes from September 21 that need to be approved. Donna said she had reviewed the recording from the Board of Health meeting and Willie Noyes clearly said the deficiencies would not be corrected. There had been a question about whether he said they would or would not be. Mike and Kyle withdrew the motion.

Doug moved to approve the minutes of October 5, 2020, Kyle seconded and the motion was passed.

Eric asked what the board wanted to do about the Board of Health minutes. Brian said he thinks with Nat absent there are not enough people present to approve those minutes. Doug suggested asking Willie what he said on September 21. He understood him to say he was fixing the deficiencies. It was agreed that Doug will call Willie to clarify what he said.

4. Treasurer's Report / Review and Approve Bills, Warrants, Licenses / Any Action Items

Rosemary said to date expenditures are at 22% of budget and income is at 68%. We received the second installment of state highway money. Usually our PILOT money and ANR money comes in at the end of October.

We have collected almost 39% of this year's taxes. Last year at the same time the figure was 38% and 2 years ago it was 40%. Does the board want to send delinquent taxes to the attorney in December as usual? Eric asked if the amount of delinquent taxes is in line with what is normal. Rosemary said yes. Eric indicated the board could come back to the question of sending delinquent taxes for collection at a future meeting.

Rosemary said the land records company is coming next month to start scanning the land records books. They tell us they will have all the records completed that we got the \$25K grant for.

We have collected about 700 absentee ballots so far. We may have over 1000 by the election. That will be a record. Usually we get around 400.

Eric said we are tentatively looking at scheduling an abatement hearing for next Monday. Rosemary said she will try to reach Robin in the next day or two to check her availability.

5. ***Public Works Administrator's Report***

Brian Krause said the Clay Hill project is finished. The trucks are almost ready for winter. We had an MSHA inspection last week. There was nothing wrong with the pit but the inspector cited us for an error in our original paperwork. The fine was the lowest possible amount, \$118. The pit address was not in the paperwork. In the last 4 years no one has spotted that, but this inspector did.

There is no one qualified who wants to take responsibility for the mine safety program after Brian K. leaves, so he will have to close the mine earlier in the year than we usually do. Otherwise there could be fines for having no one in charge of the safety program. Brian's replacement can be trained to take over the program during the winter and then the problem will go away.

This is Brian K.'s last report. He has appreciated working with the board. This will be his last week. Eric thanked Brian for his contribution.

Kyle said she thought we were supposed to be getting Plot Road paved this year. Brian K. said that got pushed off. The project is still in place but we are waiting for funds to take action on it. Kyle asked, it is still the number one priority once we get the funds? Brian said yes, along with Ober Hill Road. Those two roads are in the same project.

Kyle asked if we have gotten all the material out of the pit that we need for winter. Brian K. said the crew has been getting material out and stockpiling it where it can be accessed without violating MSHA rules. Eric asked, we have all the winter sand piled up, right? Brian K. said yes.

Brian said he will have a good list of projects for Jason to take care of until his replacement is in place. Once his replacement is hired, Brian will be available for him to call any time. He has a notebook where he is writing down important things and he can walk the new public works supervisor through projects.

6. *Request to Preserve Land for the Long Trail*

Kate Wanner from the Green Mountain Club thanked the board for supporting the Codding Hollow acquisition, which has closed. The same partners are working on another addition to the Long Trail State Forest. They want to acquire 14.5 acres on Plot Road. Kate showed a map of the location. The acquisition will give more flexibility around permanent protection of the Long Trail and provide space for parking. There is currently no off-road parking on Plot Road. The acquisition by the state will have a negligible effect on taxes. PILOT will be the same. The town will no longer receive the local agreement amount of \$2.62. The Conservation Commission enthusiastically supports the acquisition and wrote a support letter. Kate and Mollie Flanigan from the Green Mountain Club and Gannon Osborn from the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation are here to respond to any questions or concerns and to request selectboard support for adding these 14.5 acres to the Long Trail State Forest.

Doug asked who the acquisition from. Kate said it is from someone who used to live on the adjoining property but sold it and moved to Swanton.

Kyle moved and Mike seconded to support the efforts of the Green Mountain Club and the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to acquire 14.5 acres on Plot Road as an addition to the Long Trail State Forest. Brian said Ron and Diana Osborn wrote letters of support. Kyle said she thinks this is a great move for our town. **The motion was passed.**

7. *Sophia Berard Regarding Failure to be Considered for Racial Justice Committee Volunteers*

Sophia Berard said on October 1 she sent a letter of interest in serving on the Racial Justice Committee to Meredith and Brian. Because the land she and her husband own is crossed by the village boundary line she asked to be considered for either the village or the town. Meredith informed her that since her home is in the town but not the village, she could not be considered for one of the village appointments and should contact Brian. She did that on October 7 and she re-sent him her letter of interest, but he neglected to send her information on when the meeting to interview candidates was being held. She found out the day after the meeting that she had missed it. We are all busy and make mistakes but she believes it is what we do in the wake of our mistakes that defines our character. She is positive this was an honest mistake but there is still time to fix it. Not righting this wrong could set a dangerous precedent. She is asking that she be considered to serve the community on the Racial Justice Committee as would be fair and equitable to all applicants.

Eric said the last time the board met members were appointed to the committee. Currently there is no opening on the committee. If the board wishes to reopen interviewing and interview Sophia (and others if the board desires), since committee members serve at the will of the selectboard the board could remove one or more and make an opening. He is looking for guidance from the board.

Kyle moved to rescind the vote to appoint three members to the Racial Justice Committee and to reopen the interview and voting process to include Sophia Berard, the sole candidate who was left out of the process and not given a fair chance to compete for a Racial Justice Committee position.

Doug asked how Sophia would prefer to see this handled. What mechanism would be fair to the people who appeared at the meeting? To Offie Wortham, who withdrew his name based on an assumption and wrote to the newspaper? What would be fairest to all?

Sophia said if the board rescinds the vote and then allows her to be interviewed as all applicants were, that would be fair. Whether or not the board just interviews her or pulls everyone back is up to the board. She would like the chance to be heard from. Kyle's motion seems fair. That is what she asks for.

Kyle said she thinks it is important to remember that the only wrong that was done was to Sophia, not to Offie or anyone else who chose not to show up for the interviews. Others chose not to be at the interview. Sophia was unintentionally left out and didn't even get an opportunity to interview. She believes rescinding the vote and adding an interview just for Sophia is the right thing to do.

Doug said he would love for Sophia to have been present. He recognizes that she didn't have the opportunity and that it was no fault of hers. We are missing Nat, who was one of the voters last time, and he is not certain whether Sophia would or wouldn't be one of the three people chosen. He is not sure how trustworthy a second vote would be seen to be. He would like to hear from the people who were voted in what they think should happen. He wishes all three of them were here. He might be interested in seconding the motion, depending in part on what they would say.

Eric seconded the motion.

Denise Ashman said she recognizes Sophia's passion. Passion is not always easy to find in small towns. She hopes it is not disregarded. She has only heard two options for this. She would like to believe there are lots of options. She suggested that other options be brainstormed.

Jackie Stanton said she is in agreement with Kyle and Sophia. It was an unfortunate error but it is easy to undo. The three members have just barely been appointed. She is not sure they have met each other. The village doesn't have all their candidates together. This seems to be a no-brainer. If the board wants Nat here it could be put off to the next meeting. Sophia could be given a chance for an interview and the board could have another executive session. She doesn't think the board should consider opening interviews up to people who got the information and chose not to come to the last meeting.

Diane Lehouillier said she thinks Sophia's request is valid, simple and straightforward. She doesn't understand why the board can't do the right thing.

Scott Meyer said he and Kim Dunkley are in agreement with the last two people about making it right, and if that doesn't work he has another idea. At the beginning of the conversation about the committee we talked about possibly having a facilitator. That was not done but he thinks a facilitator is still a good idea. He doesn't know if Sophia would be up for it or not. But he hates to see someone this passionate not given a chance.

Rick Aupperlee said the opportunity for alternates was discussed by the selectboard and they decided it was not an option but it might be an option. Someone asked that there be brainstorming. He agrees that it was an oversight. He knows there was a statement made, he believes at a trustee board meeting, that the members of the committee serve at the board's pleasure. The board has the authority to change its decision on the appointments. Anyone or everyone could be removed and an opportunity could be created to correct the oversight.

Jane Nuse said she agrees with what most people here have said. It seems like Sophia was one of the first people to put in her name and she was willing to be appointed by the village or town. She is so passionate. It is a shame that a little glitch would exclude her from being on something she wants so much to be a part of. She supports getting her voice heard.

Jasmine Yuris said she wants to reiterate what everyone else said and drive home the point Sophia made that it is what you do in the wake of a mistake that is important. What could this translate to in the future if the board just said, sorry, the decision has been made? She thinks the board could easily right this wrong. Regarding Doug's uncertainty about how it would look if the board went back to the drawing board and did or didn't choose her, she thinks it is clear and simple. The board is just giving her the opportunity and the results will be the results. It will be the board's choice. She hopes the board makes the right decision.

Charles Gallanter said his only concern is that in the past the selectboard adopted a policy dealing with removal of people from boards. His recollection is that the decision to remove someone must be a unanimous decision of the selectboard. Eric said he thinks we were looking into that policy but never adopted it. Rick is correct that all committee members serve at the pleasure of the selectboard and can be removed for any reason. Brian said he believes the requirement for unanimous consent was in the draft appointment policy but was removed during discussion. The town's policy is silent on procedures to remove a member.

Cal Stanton said he wants to reiterate what the majority of the community has said. It is fair to do a revote including Sophia. Kyle's motion is probably the simplest way to go. Given that it was Brian's innocent oversight, he asked how Brian thinks it should be righted.

Brian said he wants to publicly apologize. It was entirely his fault. Sophia gave us notice of her interest in plenty of time. He knew she was not considered by the village so her name should have been included and it wasn't. He was not part of the decision about appointments. He doesn't think his opinion counts for much. He really regrets that he is at the root of this.

Shayne Spence said both he and Athena Parke think Sophia should get her shot.

Eric Hutchins said, as one of the people appointed, he thinks it is tremendous that so many people were interested in this committee. He wants the board to get the people they think are most able to carry out their directives. It is totally fine with him for the board to reconsider the appointments. He doesn't know Portia but he thinks Mark Nielsen is the kind of person who would be fair-minded about this as well. He has no reservations if the board wants to reconsider.

Kyle said we should remember that this is a racial and social justice committee. If we can't even get the justice part correct in this part of the process she would feel disheartened.

The motion was passed.

Eric asked if the board would like to give Sophia two minutes to speak right now or do it at a future time. Doug said he would like to do at a future time when Nat is here. Mike agreed. Eric apologized to Sophia that this happened and said the town will get hold of her and do an interview at a future time.

8. *Designation of LCPC as a Designated Public Agency for Management of CDBG Funds*

Brian said this item is about designating the Lamoille County Planning Commission to act as a public agency on behalf of the town in working with Jenna's Promise on redevelopment of the Barrows Building. We applied for and received a Community Development Block Grant and we sought their assistance so it would take less of our time. They will do reporting, management of funds and overseeing the day-to-day work of the project. We have entered into an agreement informally and we need to formalize it with a form from the federal government.

Mike moved and Doug seconded to designate LCPC as a designated public agency for management of Community Development Block Grant funds.

Brian said when we were approached by Jenna's Promise about the project, the town was going to have relatively little donation, just a low in-kind donation which would include Brian's paid time. In order to make that small outlay work we need to designate LCPC as project administrator. They will have to conform to all the agreements and standards we have set about equal opportunity, no discrimination, etc.

Kyle asked if LCPC is seeing more plans on paper. Brian said Seth Jensen of LCPC is very involved with administration of the project already. Jenna's Promise has been working closely with Seth. Kyle asked if the board can see some of the documentation along the way so they are up to speed. Brian said yes. The town will be included in all the reporting. We won't prepare the reports but we have to approve them and we will be able to ask questions.

The motion was passed.

Eric said board members should all plan to sign the warrants at the same time they come to the municipal building to sign the form that goes with this motion.

9. *Recreation Committee Appointment*

Brian said Kim Goodell has volunteered to serve on the Recreation Committee. She has attended several of their meetings and is recommended by the committee for appointment. **Mike moved to appoint Kim Goodell to the Recreation Committee, Kyle seconded and the motion was passed.**

10. *Beautification Committee Resignations*

Brian said a few Beautification Committee members haven't been regularly attending meetings and haven't responded to a recent request on whether they plan to attend meetings. Angela Burton is resigning. Brennan Blair and Phil Yuris haven't been to recent meetings or responded.

Kyle moved and Doug seconded to accept the resignation of Angela Burton from the Beautification Committee and to remove Philip Yuris and Brennan Blair from the Beautification Committee. Kyle said she thinks Phil and Brennan were really enthusiastic about being on the committee and are not intentionally being difficult; it is just that their work doesn't allow them to be on the committee as they had thought. **The motion was passed.** Brian said he will solicit for new volunteers

11. Resignation of Second Constable

Brian said our second constable, Diane Stoney, is moving and will no longer be able to serve. **Doug moved to accept the resignation of second constable Diane Stoney, Kyle seconded and the motion was passed.**

12. Appointment of New Second Constable

Brian said Jay Hill, the animal control officer in Eden, is interested in serving as second constable, second animal control officer and second health officer.

Jay Hill said he lives in Hyde Park. His youngest son goes to Johnson Elementary School. He is familiar with the area. He has lived in Vermont for about 15 years. He just recently started working as the Eden dog officer. He loves animals. He is a disabled vet so he has a lot of time and is always available.

Eric asked if he has any experience as health officer. Jay said no, but Brian had mentioned getting training. He is a pretty quick learner.

Kyle asked if Jay knows Tracy Myers. Jay said he knew Sharon. He used to live in Johnson. He knows Tracy, but not well. Kyle said she asked because it is important that he and Tracy have a good working relationship. She wanted to make sure it would work out well.

Mike moved and Doug seconded to appoint Jay Hill as second constable, second animal control officer and second health officer. Kyle asked if Jay is willing to get health officer training. He said yes. **The motion was passed.**

13. Request to Remove Stone from Evergreen Ledge Cemetery

Brian said the town received a request from Kitty Letts to relocate a marker that was placed in Evergreen Ledge Cemetery, probably when her mother, Ruby Gandenburger, purchased a plot there. With the stone there, her mother then purchased a plot in a cemetery in Maine and was buried there while the stone remains here. We are having difficulty proving that that she was definitely not buried here and was buried in Maine. This request was made first a number of years ago to Lillian Byrne and Lillian denied it because there was not enough proof to satisfy her concerns. There are a lot of legal questions. His recommendation is that we consult our attorney about what level of proof we need for the stone to be moved. Does it even belong to us or can the family just take it? And what should we do with the plot after the stone is moved?

Mike said usually when someone puts a stone on a plot the date of death is added when they are buried. Do we know if there is one? Brian doesn't believe so. Mike said if there is no date of death then we should probe to see if there is a vault. If a probe does not hit a vault then no one is buried there. He would say if no one is buried there we should let them take their stone because they paid for it.

Eric asked how we deal with the plot then. Mike said they own it. They could deed it back to the town. Doug said the decedent owns the plot, not the daughter. Mike said she could sell it if she had power of attorney. Doug said power of attorney ceases on death. He said he doesn't know whether the headstone belongs to the cemetery or if the family can remove it.

Kyle said she thinks this needs legal review. Mike said if he bought a stone and was going to be buried in one cemetery and then he decided to be buried in another he would consider it his stone and he would just go and get it. Brian said it would be different if Ruby was the one asking but she is not. Doug said he wonders if Ruby had any other children that might object to this. Brian said she did have family here. There might be some who live in Johnson.

Mike said all we have to do is ask the undertaker in Maine if they buried her there. Brian said they cannot produce any documentation about her burial. They would be willing to swear to it but cannot produce any definitive documentation.

Kyle moved and Doug seconded to send Kitty Letts' request to remove a stone from Evergreen Ledge Cemetery to the town's attorney for legal review. The motion was passed in a roll call vote with Mike opposed and Kyle, Doug and Eric voting in favor.

14. Request for Assistance in Cremation

Brian said we got a call from Dartmouth-Hitchcock requesting financial assistance for cremation and disposal of remains for a former Johnson resident who entered hospice care. Brian informed them that we have no policy or procedure on how to deal with this request. It was agreed that Brian should pass this request along to the group of agencies in Lamoille County that have formed a command network. Mike said he thinks we should help the family but the town should not provide financial assistance. Others agreed.

15. Reopening of Town Offices

Brian said we have received requests from the Historical Society and other groups that would like to use the municipal building again. And there are people who would like to be able to come in and pay their bills, etc. in person. Eric said there have been numerous requests. There are people who would like the downstairs to open. Seniors have been asking about using the upstairs. The library and Historical Society want to open up. Lisa Crews is looking at winter activities. The emergency management team will be meeting tomorrow and discussing their comfort level with opening some or all town facilities. He thinks that is the best place to let this conversation happen but he would look for guidance from the selectboard if there is something the board wants him to take to the team with reference to the municipal building.

Mike said we split the cost with the village for a plexiglass barrier in order to have the office open. Probably not a week goes by that he doesn't hear from someone asking when we are going to open up the downstairs of the municipal building. That is probably what we should look into. We had discussed once having a barrier so we could have business as usual as much as possible.

Eric asked for input from Rosemary about what people are not able to do now. Is anything not happening that should happen? Rosemary said the only thing people can't do is pay bills in person. If someone wants a hunting license or something notarized or to view land records they can make an appointment. Bills have to be paid through the drop box. As far as she knows, no

town in Lamoille County has the clerk's office open. Doug said Wolcott is open. Rosemary said they are very small. Doug said they have quite a bit of space.

Doug said he thinks the reason we are closed is that we are not essential. We are able to protect our people. If we could close the grocery store and take the risk away and still have food we would do that, but we can't. Most people have risk imposed on them.

Eric invited Rosemary to the emergency management team meeting. He said he thinks the team would like to hear her input.

Rosemary said the governor still has the state of emergency going. Mike said he thinks a lot of people are getting tired of it. Doug said it's a dangerous situation for quite a few people, with a lot of collateral damage – economic, housing, mental health. It is not an easy decision.

Kyle said there is not a lot of room in our building to keep social distancing. She would hate for our employees to have to manage that on top of their regular jobs. It is important to get input from them about whether it is logistically possible to keep themselves and the public safe. What she hears more about is the upstairs. She feels people are feeling urgency to meet up there because of the cold weather.

Eric said the biggest concern is that we do not have the ability to clean between groups. Meetings upstairs may take place almost any time of day, including late evenings or weekends. We don't have staffing to support that.

Brian said we could manage social distancing at the window relatively well, only allowing one person to come up to the window, but employees can't see into the area by the stairway and the front door. We can put up a sign saying one person should come in at a time but we can't see if people are social distancing in the stairway area. Doug asked, wouldn't it be easy to put a camera in that room? Brian said we have some questions about cameras creating public documents that we then have to retain. Mike said someone would have to be watching the camera and if someone got too close they would have to send someone out. It seems like too big a hassle. Eric said another problem with the downstairs is that there is no way to have a separate entrance and exit.

Kim Dunkley said she doesn't know that we have backups for the people who work there. If anything happens to any of them it will put added stress on the others. It sounds like people can call and get things done by appointment. If that is working she wants to side with safety.

16. November Meeting Schedule

Eric said the first Monday in November is the night before the election. Do we want to meet then? The third Monday is the first week of deer season and he won't be here. It was agreed to meet on the first and third Mondays of November as usual, with Doug running the meeting on the third Monday.

17. Lamoille County Sheriff's Department Monthly Report

The sheriff's department monthly report was sent out by email.

18. Presentation of Trailhead Plan

Brian reviewed the situation. We received notification from the family of an individual who spent a lot of time in Johnson and used the rail trail. The family is interested in making some kind of gift to commemorate the passing of their loved one. That has led to a proposal about a next step for the rail trail trailhead. The trailhead was constructed with grant money from the Northern Borders Regional Commission many years ago. Brian reviewed documents about it and saw many mentions that it was intended to be the start. We wanted to develop the site and make it feature-rich and attractive and tie the rail trail into the town. A handful of people have been working on what it would look like if we made improvements. Doug connected local people with the family. Howard Romero donated design work. Kate Lalley donated a landscape design. Duncan Hastings, Lea Kilvadyova and Lisa Crews were also very helpful. Doug said Howard did a structural plan and Kate Lalley did a landscape plan. Duncan gave information on the electrical possibilities and his connection to the Historical Society was also important. The Historical Society would love to put displays similar to those at the Jeffersonville trailhead at our site.

Howard showed and discussed the site plan. Handicapped accessible parking is proposed, along with redoing the grade to make the building wheelchair accessible. It is proposed to thin out the vegetation on both sides of the trailhead to give people on the trail a clearer look at our stop. Because of the railroad right of way and a right of way for municipal services the building needs to be where it is now. The plan is to enlarge the structure to make places for bikers to stand their bikes up and have a repair station. He showed a sketch of the proposed building, which is designed to be reminiscent of a railroad station. It includes a restroom and a storage room for the Recreation Committee's use. Another area will have picnic tables. A portable toilet would go into the building in winter. He would not expect to keep the building heated unless the board wants that. He anticipates that three sides of the building would have displays and graphics. The Historical Society is very interested in having a wall. He expects the side facing the rail trail would have information on the village and town and one side might be public announcements. The covered space on the south end is primarily for recreation to use as covered space during big events. The floor will be concrete for easy maintenance.

Kyle said she was at the larger presentation last week when Kate Lalley was there. Subtle landscaping is important and has a big impact. Old Mill Park is already a beautiful space but it can be easy to miss when you are on the rail trail. Kate Lalley proposed simple landscaping ideas and discussed the importance of signage. She had great ideas about ways to handle that and ways to bring public art and public sculpture to the area. She sees that as a great economic development tool. Towns with public art become destination towns. Kyle is very excited about this project. She sees it tying in beautifully with the Brownfields project, seeing the area as not just a trail but a real destination spot. She thinks this would be a perfect step toward developing this area in a fantastic way.

Brian showed some of Kate's drawings indicating where trees would be thinned to increase sight lines for the structure and where access could be widened to the width of an existing culvert.

Walter Pomroy said he has questions like who will clean the bathroom. The driveway from the town garage is the most dangerous part of the rail trail. Putting rocks by the parking area will make it hard to mow. He sees wonderful ideas but someone has to ask questions like who will clean the bathroom and we shouldn't build unless we have answers or it will be a detriment. We need to plan on spending money on it. We will need someone to clean it on a regular basis.

Brian said ongoing maintenance is an essential part. We are worse off having a filthy bathroom than not having one. That will be part of our discussion. We are talking about cost measures as part of executive session because of our belief that early disclosure will disadvantage the town. He doesn't have a lot he can get into in public session.

Doug said the present facility is plumbed for a toilet. We don't have to put in an indoor toilet yet. The maintenance issue is one we are aware of and he is sure the board will be discussing it.

Brian showed some photos of the site illustrating Kate's suggestions.

Howard said someone had asked Nat about amenities for equestrians. Horses are allowed on the rail trail. He talked to people who have horses and they all basically said all they need is a hitching post and water and a way to deal with manure. A lot also said they don't ride horses on the rail trail because they may get spooked. He is not sure if that is something we want to encourage or not.

19. Executive Session to Discuss Naming Rights and the Trailhead Plan

Doug moved to go into executive session to discuss naming rights and the trailhead plan as allowed by 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1), inviting Howard and Brian to remain, Kyle seconded, the motion was passed and the board entered executive session at 9:08.

20. Executive Session to Discuss Gravel Pit Plans

The board exited executive session and re-entered executive session to discuss gravel pit plans as allowed by 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1). The board came out of executive session at 10:09.

21. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09.

Minutes submitted by Donna Griffiths