Village of Old Bennington
Trustees Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2022

Meeting was held on Zoom and at The Barn
Officials Present: James Gallen, Jim Warren, Steven Anisman, Ed Woods, Susan Wright
Clerk Jan Buonanno
Citizens Present: Jill Jones (zoom), Billy Karis (zoom), Jonah Spivak(Town of Bennington)

1. Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:03

2. Minutes: There were no changes to the posted minutes. SA moved to approve the minutes from the March meeting. SW seconded. The Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

3. Presentation and Discussion Jonah Spivak about proposed walking path
   - Proposed 2 or 3 camera angles- need to connect with Bennington PD about their system/monitoring. EW and Jonah looking into it.
   - Porta Potty for tourist season- location as far away from homes as possible
   - Stockade fence has historic precedent
   - Grant possible through Recreation Trails Program

4. Presentation and Discussion Jason Dolmetch MSK
   - tabled

5.Offical Zoom Account for Old Bennington
   - Meetings need to be recorded and publicly available.
   - JG moved to allocate up to $240 annually to buy a zoom account with storage. EW seconded. The trustees unanimously pass the motion.

6. Citizen Comment
   - Jill Jones notes ruts & branches left by a tree crew at the intersection of Elm & Monument. SA will follow up with Davy Tree or Green Mountain Power.

7. Reports of Commissioners
   a. Road commissioner
      - Fairview has significant potholes.
      - Discussion of the merits of taking a low interest loan (KW knows where they are- not a commercial bank) v. saving up the money.
      - JW moves to contract with MSK for engineering services (1st step to serious repair) for Fairview. SA seconds. The trustees unanimously pass the motion.
      - Bank street is no longer a top priority because Fairview got so bad this winter.. Compared to other towns in the region, Old Bennintton has received a lot of class II road grants and won't likely be a top contender for a while.
      - Fallen pedestrian sign- Jerome Construction contacted
      - Do not enter sign is backordered
   b. Tree commissioner
      - Jerome cleaned up tree on island

- Trees on Monument need safety attention- homeowner contacted. Commissioner will wait 30 days to hear and then contract the work & bill the homeowner.

c. Parks and sidewalks

- SW taking over looking into water on island issue
- Bennington Museum proposed a Stopping Stones monument to Peg, a person who was enslaved in Bennington. SW moved to allow The Bennington Museum to move forward with the following conditions: it is not a tripping hazard, it doesn't affect plowing, the museum is responsible for the installation & maintenance- including if it damages the sidewalk. Four trustees (JG, SW, SA, EW) approved the motion with one dissenter (JW).

d. Police

- Officer Corey: 83 hours, 8 tickets, 57 property watches, $1359 potential fines

e. Treasurer

- Checks signed

8. Warrants: SA moved to approve the warrant list. EW seconded. The trustees unanimously approved the motion.

9. Annual Meeting Election/ Planning

- No ballet this year- in person meeting
- JG wrote the warrant- EW moves to approve the language of the warning, SA seconds, motion passed unanimously
- Still need a treasurer
- JG woking to organize voter list/ addresses to send warning
- Commissioner reports due 4/20

10. Old Business:

- Emergency Management Plan needs an official movement (hasn't been done correctly in the recent past): JG moves to sign onto a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Bennington. SA seconded, motion passes unanimously.

11. New Business:

- SW interested in having a town directory/ welcome wagon

12. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56.