



## **33rd Annual Meeting Minutes April 16, 2020**

### **Meeting held by Zoom due to COVID -19**

**Trustees Present:** Daniel Barlow, Deborah Kahn, Lori Belding, Jeanne Richardson, Kevin Ellis, Gwynn Zakov, Jim Alvarez, Lara Lonan, Pegeen Mulhern, Tom Steven, Carl VanOsdall, Abby Blum

**Trustees Excused Absent:** Daphne Makinson, Kevin Lunn,

**Staff Present:** Eileen Peltier, David Nelson, Mike Rama, Julie Curtin, Liz Genge, Patty Dupuis, Cara Hansen, Amy Dupuis, Kathy Adams, Andy Wilson, Cheryl Moyer, Kenneth Russell, Megan Lovely, Tim Lovely, Jennifer LaPan, Phil Paquet, Nicola Anderson, Neil Smith, Shelby Rachel Bryan Shatney, Maxine Adams.

**Guests:** Deb Bard, Nancy Hanson, , Phayvanh Luekhamhan, Pollaidh Major, Zachary Hughes, Linda Gallagher, Gus Seelig, Jennifer Hollar, Philip Cecchini, Anthony Menonna, Jack Leonard, Pegeen Mulhern, Lucinda McCloud, M.R., Polly Nichol, Margo, Peg E.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Mike Rama.

Mike Rama welcomed all attendees and wished health and wellness to all. An in-person annual meeting gathering will be planned for later in the year.

Eileen spoke about Downstreet's response to COVID-19, including forming a partnership with Capstone Community Action and the Barre District Department of Health to form the **Washington and Northern Orange Counties Regional Response Command Center (WNOCRCC)**.

Eileen spoke about the potential for 25% loss of rental income as our residents struggle with job loss due to COVID -19. Downstreet will be applying for an SBA Paycheck Protection Program loan/grant.

Dan Barlow called the business board meeting to order at 5:44: Welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for a motion to approve 2019 annual meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Dan commended the work Downstreet and the organization's staff are doing in the face of COVID-19 and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to work with the staff, leadership and Board to do the work Downstreet does.

David Nelson made a presentation of Downstreet's financial report.

Dan Barlow expressed gratitude for departing Board members including Tom Stevens, Carl VanOsdall, and Gwynn Zakov.

Dan Barlow introduced the slate of Board members to be elected and re-elected:

Re-elected: Deborah Kahn & Kevin Ellis

Elected: Daphne Makinson, Jim Alvarez, Lara Lonan, Pegeen Mulhern

Jeanne Richardson made a motion to approve the slate, Tom Stevens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Bard asked about future funding of Downstreet and the impact that COVID-19 will have on Downstreet's financial future and grant income. Eileen said it's too early to tell, but most of our grant income comes from things like SASH and that is not at risk at this point.

Open floor discussion:

Jeanne Richardson asked for an update from Eileen on Recovery Residences in the face of COVID-19, and Eileen responded.

Lucinda McCloud (resident of French Block Apartments) made a comment in appreciation of Downstreet, especially during COVID-19.

Liz Genge expressed gratitude for Downstreet staff, especially PM and maintenance.

Margo, a colleague of Eileen's, commented on the great job of having this meeting via Zoom.

Dan asked if there was a need for volunteers in the community. Mike suggested people look at places like the Barre Mutual Aid list. He also said WNOCRRC had a list of items they are collecting for the community such as cloth masks and track phones.

Lori asked about the status of the Tiny House project now that NU is closed for the semester. Eileen said they would start work again in the fall, and it's possible a few students will work on it over the summer.

A representative from NeighborWorks was on the call and said she was happy to be able to attend the meeting in this way.

Jeanne Richardson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35.