

Barton Village, Inc.
Special Trustees Meeting

Friday, March 29, 2024

4:15pm

Barton Village Memorial Hall

Attendance: Regina Lyon (Chair), Marilyn Prue (Trustee), Ellis Merchant (Trustee),
Vera LaPorte (Business Manager)

Agenda

- A. **Call to Order** – Gina Lyon called the meeting to order at 4:18pm.
- B. **Changes to the Agenda/Additions or Deletions** – Gina Lyon added FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Letter to the Selectboard, and NEKO Grant Opportunity under Action Items (D1, D2, and D3 respectively); Vera LaPorte added 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes under Action Items (D4).
- C. **Privilege of the Floor** – None.

ACTION ITEMS:

- D. **Warning for Second 2024 Annual Meeting (Highway Department Budget)** – Gina Lyon made a motion to accept the Warning for a second 2024 Annual Meeting as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. The motion carried.

D1. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Two property owners in Barton Village have expressed interest in the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) facilitated by Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) as a result of the July 2023 flood. The HMGP would provide funding to allow the Village to purchase the properties at pre-flood value and demolish any permanent structures on them, creating greenspace to help mitigate future flooding events. The greenspace would then be maintained by the Village in perpetuity. After discussion, Gina Lyon made a motion to approve participation in the HMGP provided that the property owners perform their due diligence and complete any required paperwork ahead of implementation. Marilyn Prue seconded. The motion carried.

D2. Letter to the Selectboard – Gina Lyon presented a letter she composed to the Town Selectboard requesting \$40,000 from the Town’s Miscellaneous Grant Fund to assist with funding the Village’s new salt and sand shed. After discussion, Gina Lyon made a motion to approve of presenting the letter to the Selectboard at their regular meeting on April 1, 2024. Marilyn Prue seconded. The motion carried.

D3. NEKO Grant Opportunity – Northeast Kingdom Organizing (NEKO) hosted a meeting online on 03/28/2024 to discuss applying for a grant of up to \$10,000 through the Vermont Community

Foundation called “Arts and Community Spaces: Coming Together After the Floods.” Many ideas were discussed, such as painting a mural, throwing a block party, and revitalizing the Brick Kingdom trail behind EM Brown. NEKO has asked the Board for their support and whether the Village would be the fiscal sponsor should they receive the grant. After discussion, Gina Lyon made a motion to support NEKO’s request and serve as the fiscal sponsor for the grant. Marilyn Prue seconded. The motion carried.

D4. 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes – After review, Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve the 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes as presented. Gina Lyon seconded. The motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS:

E. **Other Business** – None.

F. **Adjourn** – Gina Lyon made a motion to adjourn. Ellis Merchant seconded. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:56pm.

Upcoming Meetings:

Special Board Meeting: April 1, 2024 (Town Selectboard)

Regular Board Meeting: April 8, 2024

Regular Board Meeting: April 22, 2024

2024 Second Annual Meeting: April 30, 2024

Regina Lyon, Board of Trustees Chair