

# TRORC Annual Board Meeting – King Farm, Woodstock VT

## June 22, 2022 – Annual Meeting Minutes

### Attendance:

Name	Town	9/22/21	12/15/21	2/23/22	4/27/22	5/25/22	6/22/22
Jerry Fredrickson	Barnard	X	X		X	X	X
Steve Cota	Barnard (Alt)						
Paul Vallee	Bethel	X	X	X	X		
Nancy Jones	Bradford	X	X	X	X	X	X
Marcey Carver	Bradford (Alt)			X	X		X
Marlys Eddy	Braintree			X	X		
Chris Southworth	Bridgewater						
Gwynn Zakov	Brookfield	X		X			
Jon Binhammer	Brookfield (Alt.)						
Carl Pepperman	Chelsea	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tim O'Dell	Corinth	X	X	X	X		
Peter Berger	Fairlee	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mark Belisle	Granville		X		X		X
Monica Collins	Hancock	X			X		
Lori Hirshfield	Hartford	X			X		
Bruce Riddle	Hartford (Alt)	X	X	X	X	X	
Charles Jeffries	Hartland	X	X	X	X		X
David Ormiston	Hartland	X	X				X
Frank Tegethoff	Newbury	X	X	X	X	X	X
Larry Scott	Newbury (Alt.)						
Jeff Lubell	Norwich	X		X		X	
Jaci Allen	Norwich (Alt.)				X		X
Sarah Gallagher	Pittsfield	X	X	X	X		
Anne Brown	Plymouth			X	X		X
Jim Allen	Plymouth (Alt.)						
Bill Emmons	Pomfret		X	X	X	X	
Phil Dechert	Pomfret (Alt)		X	X		X	X
Ramsey Papp	Randolph	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gary Dir	Randolph (Alt)		X	X	X		
Anni Mackay	Rochester		X	X			
Doon Hinderyckx	Rochester (Alt)		X	X			
David Brandau	Royalton	X		X	X		X
Bushrod Powers	Royalton (Alt)		X	X		X	X
Ira Clark	Sharon	X	X	X	X		

Sue Sellew	Sharon (Alt.)					X	
Bill Edgerton	Stockbridge						
John Echeverria	Strafford		X	X	X		X
Jesse Anderson	Thetford	X	X				
Angie McCanna	Thetford					X	
Jim Masland	Thetford (Alt)						X
Jim Clark	Topsham				X		
Michael Sacca	Tunbridge			X			
Kevin Rose	Tunbridge (Alt)			X	X		
Vacant	Vershire						
Nancy Malmquist	W. Fairlee	X	X	X	X	X	
Don Bourdon	Woodstock	X	X			X	
Brad Prescott	Woodstock (Alt)	X					
Meghan Butts	At-Large	X	X		X	X	X
Jennifer Colby	At-Large		X		X		X
Ken Alton	At-Large	X	X		X	X	X
Dan Rudell	At-Large		X		X	X	
Andrew Winter	At-Large	X		X	X		
Meg Emmons	At-Large	X	X			X	

**1. Call to Order, Approval of the Agenda, Introductions, and Public Comments:**

The meeting opened at 7:11 p.m. A quorum after roll call was declared. No changes to the agenda were made. There were no comments from the public.

**2. Approval of Minutes from June 2021 Annual Meeting**

On a motion made by Commissioner Berger and seconded by Commissioner Brandau, the June 2021 Annual Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. Acceptance of the Unaudited May 2022 TRORC Financial Report**

On a motion made by Commissioner Jones, and seconded by Commissioner Berger, the unaudited May 2022 Financial Report was approved unanimously.

Gregory reported that the May financials were as expected. TRORC will end the fiscal year in a good financial position. Income targets have been met and expenses will be lower than expected in the approved budget.

#### **4. Approval of TRORC's FY23 Budget**

TRORC's proposed budget for FY23 was discussed. Gregory noted that the budget had been reviewed in depth by the Executive Committee. The FY23 budget of \$2.5 million is slightly higher than last year's budget and is a solid budget with most of the funding already contracted. The Executive Committee recommends adoption of the proposed budget.

On a motion made by Commissioner Belisle and seconded by Commissioner Papp, the proposed FY23 TRORC budget was adopted unanimously by the Board.

#### **5. Adoption of TRORC Bylaws**

Gregory provided a brief overview of the proposed changes to the TRORC Bylaws noting that the Commissioners received detailed information on the proposed changes via e-mail in May 2022.

The amended TRORC Bylaws were unanimously adopted by the Board following a motion made by Commissioner Powers and seconded by Commissioner Jones.

#### **6. Approval of Election of Officers for FY23**

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Gregory announced that the Nominating Committee had contacted everyone on the Executive Committee. He confirmed that each member agreed to serve on the Commission during the coming year.

Executive Committee:  
Jerry Fredrickson, Chair  
Bill Emmons, Vice Chair  
Nancy Jones, Treasurer  
David Brandau, Secretary  
Bill Edgerton, Member of the Executive Committee  
Nancy Malmquist, Member of the Executive Committee

On a motion made by Commissioner Colby and seconded by Commissioner Brown, the election of the Officers was accepted unanimously.

#### **7. Approval of At-Large Board Members for FY23**

Gregory shared that each of TRORC's At-Large Board members had also agreed to serve on the Commission during the coming year.

Members at Large:  
Ken Alton, Economic Development  
Jenn Colby, Agriculture  
Meg Emmons, Youth  
Andrew Winter, Housing  
Dan (Rudi) Rudell, Conservation  
Meghan Butts, Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Commission

On a motion made by Commissioner Brandau and seconded by Commissioner Powers, the election of the Members at Large was accepted unanimously.

#### **8. Approval of FY22 Student Scholarship Awards**

The following students were affirmed as recipients of TRORC's FY22 Scholarship Awards:

Bethany LaRowe Davis, White River Junction  
Iris Fukushima, Vershire  
Nora Knudsen, White River Junction  
Gretta Koppers, Fairlee  
Bronwyn Morris, Woodstock  
Morgan Myers, Woodstock  
Bazel Russell, Randolph  
Macey Smith, Topsham  
Emma Shulze, Wells River  
Keenan Thygesen, Tunbridge

#### **9. Volunteer of the Year Award**

The 2022 Volunteer of the Year Award was presented by Commissioner Jones to Newbury resident Patti Clark. Clark, who is the manager of two branches of the Wells River Savings Bank, has a demonstrated track record for volunteering for local community groups. Her volunteerism has included fundraising, serving on the Boards of the Lower Cohase Chamber of Commerce and the Tenney Memorial Library in Newbury, and participating as a regular member of Vermont's Green Up initiative.

Clark thanked the Board and encouraged everyone to volunteer their time as well.

#### **10. Chairperson/Director Remarks**

Chairperson Fredrickson shared several highlights of TRORC Executive Committee activities that took place during FY22. They included reviewing updated policy documents, reviewing the updated Strategic Plan, and meeting quarterly with Mascoma Wealth Management regarding TRORC's investments. He lauded the Board's due diligence in reviewing the Town Plan review documents for three towns during the past year – all of which were approved. Fredrickson ended his comments noting Kevin Geiger's promotion to the new position of Director of Planning which was effective in November 2021. Quoting a comment from Commissioner Edgerton, he added, "The promotion of Geiger is happening at a good point in time and will further strengthen the organization's leadership. Not every organization has such a strong leadership team."

Executive Director Gregory followed with his remarks, thanking the Board for attending the first in-person Annual meeting in two years, and thanking the TRORC staff for the knowledge and passion they bring to their work. He announced Sarah Wraight's promotion to Senior Planner as of July 1, 2022.

Gregory continued with brief highlights of the past year including the Staff's work on 35 separate Municipal projects in addition to answering lots of questions from the Region's 30 towns, continuing work on Transportation issues, and supporting Economic Development in the region. Gregory testified at the State House on a number of issues, noting that TRORC uses these opportunities to represent the

needs of the small communities. VT Senator Allison Clarkson underscored Gregory's efforts by stating that his testimony is among the most trusted within the Legislature.

Gregory concluded by thanking the Commissioners for supporting the TRORC staff who work for their Towns.

**Presentation**

Scott Whittier, Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the National Weather Service (NWS) in Burlington VT, spoke about his role at the NWS and how developments in technology have impacted the NWS' ability to forecast hazardous weather conditions.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, September 21, 2022. A reminder that there is no Board meeting held in July or August.

Meeting Minutes prepared by:  
Lori Kay, Finance Manager, June 23, 2022