



**MEETING MINUTES  
OF DECEMBER 9, 2024**

Members: Don McDowell, Christopher Palermo, Laura Streets, Richard Craig, George Cormier, Richard Sargeant, VACANT

Absent:

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Brent Raymond, Town Manager; Judi Alberi, Executive Assistant

PARTICIPANTS/GUESTS:

*\*participating via Zoom*

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**5:00PM - CALL TO ORDER**

Don McDowell called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM at the Tegu Building.

**5:01PM - AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS**

None

**5:03PM - APPROVE MINUTES**

**1. Approve minutes of 11-18-24**

*Motion made by Chris Palermo to approve the minutes of 11/18/2024. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried. (5/0)*

**5:05PM - NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Conduct interviews to fill the vacant seat on the AH Copley Trust Fund Board**

- a. Mary Ann Wilson**
- b. Charles Burnham**
- c. Peter Wilder**
- d. Leah Hollenberger**
- e. Elizabeth Emerson**

Peter Wilder chose not to pursue an interview for a position on the board. He believed there were many distinguished candidates in the running and decided against continuing with the interview process. Four candidates were interviewed for the vacant seat on the AH Copley Trust Fund Board. The Board asked each person the following questions. What do you hope to accomplish if you are selected? Why do you think that the AH Copley Trust Fund is important? How would you handle a conflict with a Board decision? Who maintains the books and records of the Trust Fund? Members are expected to be longstanding. Do you anticipate staying on the Board for a length of time? There will be a workshop for Copley Trust Fund Board members to educate members about the stipulations regarding the fund's management.

Mary Ann Wilson was the first to be interviewed. She stated that she was interested in government

and was excited to have the money to fund good projects. She told the Board that she was the town clerk for several years. She responded that the records were kept by the town. When talking with Gloria Wing she told her she was interested in being on the Board for a long time.

Charles Burnham would add his experience to the board, and he appreciated the board dynamics. He thought that the Copley Trust Fund was important to the community. He has participated in several situations where conflict arose, and he knew how to handle his personal views. He thinks that he will follow up on who maintains the records. He would be interested in being a long-term member of the Board. He worked with Gloria in the past. He asked how often the Board meets.

Leah Hollenberger would fulfill the wishes of Alexander H. Copley's will. She felt that the fund is important because it provides a way to help the community with funding. In the case of a conflict, she supports the goal and would talk about a resolution. She stated that the town maintains the records for the fund. She is interested in being a long-term member. She wants to expand the public's knowledge of the Copley Trust Fund.

Elizabeth Emerson would like to establish sustainable projects for youths and adults. The Trust Fund is important because it helps the community. She thinks that when there is conflict one should compromise and have collective discussions. She felt the Union Bank maintained the records of the Trust Fund. Yes, she would be interested in a long-term commitment.

#### **6:00PM - OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **1. Executive Session - Personnel**

***Motion made by Chris Palermo to go into an Executive Session because I find that premature general public knowledge would clearly place a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (5/0).***

***Motion made by Chris Palermo to go into Executive Session to discuss the appointment of a public officer subject to T1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3) to include Town Manager, Brent Raymond and Executive Assistant, Judi Alberi. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried. (5/0)***

***Motion made by Chris Palermo to come out of the executive session. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried. (5/0)***

##### **2. Possible appointment of a new member to the Alexander Hamilton Copley Trust Fund Board.**

After careful consideration of the four impressive candidates, a decision was made to invite Leah Hollenberger to join the Board.

***Motion made by George Cormier to appoint Leah Hollenberger to the AH Copley Trust Fund Board. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried (6/0).***

#### **6:30PM - ADJOURN**

***Motion made by George Cormier to adjourn. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (5/0)***

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm  
Submitted and filed this 12/9/2024.  
Bonnie McDermott, Scribe

*Please note all minutes are in Draft form and are subject to approval at the next meeting.*