

MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
3/31/2022



**ATENDEES:**

**Board of Trustees**

Sissy Crowther, Chair  
Eleanor Brown  
Viola Baskerville  
Tom Slater  
Elsie Delva-Smith

**Other Attendees (via Zoom):**

Raul Garcia, VOF Trustee  
Ali Afonja, VOF Trustee  
Rich Mahevich, Attorney General's office  
Leslie Grayson, VOF Staff  
Sandy Collins, Hunton Williams  
Nan Mahone Wellborn, Conservation Partners  
Heather Hall, VOF Staff  
Nathan Burrell, VOF Staff  
Mike Hallock-Salomon, VOF Staff  
Ryan Ponder  
Ruth Babylon, VOF Staff  
Baron Lin, VOF Staff  
Emma Weaver, VOF Staff  
Rex Linville, Piedmont Environmental Council

**Staff:**

Brett Glymph, Executive Director  
Bobbie Cabibbo, Executive Assistant  
Anna Chisholm, Deputy Director

Martha Little, Deputy Director  
Jason McGarvey, Communications Manager  
Dave Morton, IT Director  
Emily Nelson-White, Grant Programs Director

**Other Attendees: (In person):**

John Mitchell, Community Ambassador, Evergreen Cemetery  
Natasha Skelton, The Conservation Fund  
Lisa Bievor, Northern Neck Land Conservancy  
Ellen Shepherd, VaULT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Sissy asked that Bobbie Cabibbo call roll. All trustees were present other than Raul Garcia and Ali Afonja. Sissy welcomed everyone to St. Margaret's School which dates to 1921.

**APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Tom Slater made a motion to remove the Doobie Prince project and the Cemetery District Contracts from the agenda. Motion seconded by Eleanor Brown and passed unanimously.

Sissy said that Public Comments will be kept to the usual 15 minutes; we will first take public comments from those in person and then any person via Zoom. The electronically submitted public comments and were given to the Trustees, a copy is available here at the meeting and are part of the permanent record.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Sissy asked for a motion to go in to closed session. Bobbie read and Tom moved the following:

I move that the Board go into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.7 & 3 and for:

1. consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiation or litigating posture of the public body, and consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel:
  - Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to litigation involving Projects 3855 and 2184
  - VOF owned land in Marshall District of Fauquier County

This closed meeting will be attended only by members of the Board. However, pursuant to Section 2.2- 3712 (F), the Board requests the VOF's Attorney General Counsels, the Executive Director, the Deputy Directors, Administrative Director, the Executive Assistant, and IT Director, and Michael Mansfield, as it believes their presence will reasonably aid the committee in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Viola Baskerville and passed unanimously.

When meeting returned from closed session, Bobbie read the following certification:

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees conducted a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712.D of the Code requires a certification by this Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board.

Eleanor Brown so certified; Viola Baskerville so certified, Elsie Delva-Smith so certified, Tom Slater so certified, and Sissy Crowther so certified.

The meeting adjourned for lunch.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

John Mitchell, the Community Ambassador for Evergreen Cemetery introduced himself and said he welcomed any concerns or comments or questions any of the trustees may have in future about the project.

Viola Baskerville offered her own comments about the Cemetery District. Those comments are on file with the permanent record of this meeting.

Public comments submitted in writing before the meeting were made available to all trustees before the meeting and are on file with the permanent record of the meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Tom to approve the minutes for the November 15, 2021 - Board of Trustees Meeting as presented; motion seconded by Viola and passed unanimously.

**PROJECT #3855**

Tom moved that after briefings from legal counsel, we hereby authorize the Executive Director, Brett, to proceed with settlement of *VOF v. Rebecca J. Schultz, Trustee, Rebecca J. Schultz Living Trust and Seilheimer, et al. v. Virginia Outdoors Foundation, et al.* pending in Albemarle Circuit Court, in consultation with legal counsel and upon terms she deems acceptable in accordance with our discussion here today. Motion seconded by Viola and passed unanimously.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Brett reported that there is a wide gap between the Senate and the house of Delegates for VLCF funding. Senator Creigh Deeds has a bill to transfer Hayfields to DCR to become a state park. VOF has asked for some friendly amendments to the bills to allow more time to prepare an easement for the property and address other issues.

The VaULT conference April 27 – 29<sup>th</sup> this year and she reminded trustees that they were invited to attend.

The next VOF meeting is 30 June 2022 where we will submit the FY23 budget after meeting again with the Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee.

**FY22 BUDGET REVIEW**

Anna Chisholm briefly reviewed the items in the meeting materials.

**STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

We are a third through our Strategic Plan in terms of time and accomplishments. In 2022 and 20 23 we will focus on working closely with local governments to better align tax map parcels with permitted divisions on easements and cross checks for permitted development. We are also exploring tying easement compliance with preferential property tax treatments.

**CONSERVATION PROJECTS**

Tom Slater moved that the following projects be approved; motion seconded by Viola and passed unanimously.

- Project # 4777 - The Mooring Farm, LLC - Albemarle County
- Project # 4790 - Tadpole Land and Trail Conservancy - Fluvanna County
- Project # 4633 - Brush Mountain Park – Montgomery County
- Project # 4765 - Glen Valley Farms, LLC- Dividing Waters – Highland County

**GRANT PROGRAMS PRESENTATION**

Emily Nelson-White narrated a presentation on several completed GO Fund projects which is on file with the permanent record of this meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Chair called for new business and there was none.

Motion made by Tom to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Viola and passed unanimously.