



MISSISQUOI VALLEY RAIL TRAIL

NORTHWEST VERMONT RAIL TRAIL COUNCIL

c/o Northwest Regional Planning Commission
75 Fairfield Street • St. Albans, VT 05478
Phone: 802-524-5958 • Fax: 802-527-2948

APPOINTED MEMBERS

St. Albans City
Jim Smith

St. Albans Town
Robert Bessette

Swanton
Vacant

Fairfield
Jane Williams

Sheldon
Marie Brouillette

Enosburg Town
Robert Gervais, Sr.

Enosburg Falls
Ellen Stanley

Berkshire
Carol Hickey

Richford
Phyllis Tiffany

VAST
Mark Bushey

At Large
Don Mueller
Alisha Sawyer
David Stanley
Nini Worman
Cynthia Scott

Ex-Officio

VT Agency of
Transportation

Northwest Regional
Planning Commission

VT Dept. of Forests,
Parks, & Recreation

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, September 17, 2018

Northwest Regional Planning Commission
75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans

Present: Don Mueller, Dave Stanley, Jane Williams, Amy Adams, Marie Brouillette, Ellen Stanley, Bethany Remmers, Robert Bessette, Cynthia Scott, Carol Hickey, Keith Schnell, VTrans, Phyllis Tiffany, Mark Bushey and Jim Smith.

Chair Dave Stanley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

M. Bushey moved to accept the minutes of the May 21, 2018 meeting as written; seconded by J. Williams. Motion passed

Financial Report-

C. Scott presented the 2nd quarter 2018 financial report (Apr 1, 2018 – Jun 30, 2018).
P. Tiffany moved to accept the 2nd quarter report as presented; seconded by R. Bessette. Motion passed

VTrans Update – Keith Schnell, Property Management Technician updated the Council on short term goals: fixing the washout at mile 2.5 in October, mowing the trail for the third time in October, remove dead trees; ongoing and confirmed that the Abbey does have the ROW for the barriers and it is not a safety hazard. The Abbey has agreed to put up reflectors high enough to be seen for snowmobilers. The Council is concerned for the safety of our users. K. Schnell shared the long-term goals: mowing three times a season, replace the culvert at 5.8 in the spring, and the bridge at mile 12.5 installing a 48” culvert in the fall of 2019. C. Scott asked about the filling in of small holes, currently there is no funds available for that work, but K. Schnell does fill them in when he is out on the trail.

Northern Borders Regional Commission Grant – Bethany Remmers filled the Council in on some key points that Greta Brunswick put together for the MVRT Marketing and Wayfinding Planning and Implementation grant, it was partially funded for \$59,187 with a 50% match. The total project is \$118,374, the Council has committed \$5,000 and the remainder match will come from other local sources. The grant will have design plans for three trailheads (St. Albans City, Sheldon Junction/Junction with LVRT and Richford), develop new marketing materials and install new kiosks and wayfinding signs. A Steering Committee consisting of Rail Trail Council, local economic development and recreation organizations will need to be formed to guide the project, meetings may be bi-monthly, C. Scott and C. Hickey volunteered to be part of the committee.

UPDATES

- **Coordinator** – The bike and helmet for the Kid's Fest 2018 event went to a four year old girl from Enosburg. The trail has been in good condition for the season.
- **VAST** – M. Bushey updated that VAST had their yearly meeting at the Abbey in September with approximately 275 attendees from fourteen counties. They had grooming equipment to view; the Abbey donated the facility use and M&C Ploof bused attendees to the event from far parking area to the new pavilion. LVRT 1C section (bridge in Sheldon to Sheldon Creek about 1.5 miles) bids open on September 18th.
- **Fall bike event** – P. Tiffany asked about interest in an autumn bike ride. A date of October 27th was set for 10 a.m. to meet at The Abbey in Sheldon, open to bikes and walkers. R. Bessette will create the event on the Facebook page and share with RiseVT.

OTHER BUSINESS

C. Scott suggested a potluck social in the future, the Council decided the next meeting will be at C. Scott's. R. Bessette discussed getting more awareness about the trail through Facebook with using advertising, Council agreed with the advertising. R. Bessette shared pricing on 72" cement tables ranging from \$900-\$1200 each, the cost and coordination to get them to the trail was not feasible for the Council, the discussion went back to keeping our current tables.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on Monday, November 19, 2018 at C. Scott's, 67 Pearl Street, Enosburg Falls.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

Minutes Approved: November 19, 2018