



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
Karen Drennen

Swanton
Vacant

Fairfield
Jane Williams

Sheldon
Marie Brouillette

Enosburg Town
Robert Gervais, Sr.

Enosburg Falls
Michael Manahan

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, January 23, 2017 Northwest Regional Planning Commission 75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans

Present: Karen Drennen, Don Mueller, Bethany Remmers, Dave Stanley, Carol Hickey, Jane Williams, Mark Bushey, Stacy Carpenter and Amy Adams

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

MEETING MINUTES

K. Drennen moved to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2016 meeting as written; seconded by D. Mueller. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT-

A. Adams presented the 4th quarter 2016 financial report (Oct 1, 2016 – Dec 31, 2016).
K. Drennen moved to accept the 4th quarter report as presented; seconded by J. Williams. Motion passed.

ANNUAL MEETING

Election of members-at-large

D. Stanley conducted the election of the members-at-large. J. Williams nominated a slate of 5 candidates: D. Mueller, A. Sawyer, D. Stanley, N. Worman and C. Scott. There being 5 nominees for 10 member-at-large positions. *Chair D. Stanley moved to cast a ballot to elect all 5 nominees; seconded by C. Hickey. Motion passed.*

Election of Officers for 2017

C. Hickey conducted the election of Chair. J. Williams nominated D. Stanley for the office of Chair. No other nominations were made. D. Stanley conducted the election of Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. J. Williams nominated C. Hickey for the office of Vice Chair; J. Williams nominated C. Scott for the office of Secretary/Treasurer. No other nominations were made for the positions. *K. Drennen moved to elect all 3 nominees; seconded by M. Bushey. Motion passed.*

D. Stanley was elected as Chair. C. Hickey was elected as Vice Chair. C. Scott was elected as Secretary/Treasurer.

FRIENDS OF MVRT 2016

A. Adams advised that 32 Friends renewed their membership and 5 new members joined (total of 37 Friends); and received \$2,995 in membership dues.

2017 ACTIVITIES

- **OUTING** – D. Stanley offered to organize a bike outing from Johnson to Morrisville the second weekend in May. S. Carpenter suggested working with the VT Department of Health and organizing groups to ride the trail and the loops, or interact with the Recreation Centers.
- **GREEN UP DAY, MAY 6th** – Volunteers will be needed for certain areas of the trail/parking areas. A. Adams will provide green up supplies at the March meeting. C. Hickey volunteered for the Berkshire section of the trail.
- **WELCOME CENTERS** - *K. Drennen made a motion that we renew our contract to have RT Guides distributed through the VT Welcome Centers; seconded by D. Stanley. Motion passed.* Council's approval will be sought should the cost exceed \$400.
- **FRANKLIN COUNTY GUIDE** - *K. Drennen made a motion that we renew our advertisement in the 2017 Franklin County Guide; seconded by J. Williams. Motion passed.* Council's approval will be sought should the cost exceed \$625 (ad space plus Chamber membership dues). The deadline is March 22, 2017.
- **PEDAL/PADDLE** – this event will take place on Saturday, June 24th sponsored by the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, volunteers are needed to help with the pedal portion. C. Hickey and D. Mueller offered to volunteer.
- **OTHER** –
 - Port-o-let** - The Council decided to not set out a port-o-let this season and will re-evaluate the decision later on.
 - Weed whacking** – D. Stanley offered to start in June.

UPDATES

- **Coordinator** – A. Adams shared with the Council the maintenance report that was submitted to the State for the summer of 2016, items that still will need to be addressed in the spring of 2017 when the State hires their contractors. The State currently has a Contractor to work on trees and in December they were working on a Contractor for mowing. *K. Drennen made a motion to write a letter to the State regarding the Council's concerns on the maintenance of the trail; seconded by D. Stanley. Motion passed.*
- **Geocaching** – Received an email from Tyler Lothian who is seeking permission to hide geocaches along the MVRT. Geocaching is worldwide game of hiding small containers and using GPS coordinates to find them. Currently they are setup on the LVRT. A. Adams will check on the details of location, how many and what the timeframe will be.
- **VAST** – M. Bushey reported that they are currently idle. December, 90 miles were groomed. Sheldon to Cambridge is open for winter use only. Swanton to Cambridge washout they made a trail around it in Swanton. Membership is down to 103 members. There will be a VAST Directors meeting the end of January.
- **LVRT** – No updates. B. Remmers suggested inviting Shane Prisby, LVRT Project Manager to the Council's May meeting for an update.

OTHER BUSINESS

Invite VT State Police/Franklin County Sheriff Office to the March or May meeting to discuss ATV concerns and parking issues before the season starts.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on Monday, March 20, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Minutes Approved: March 20, 2017