



# 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, January 15, 2018

Northwest Regional Planning Commission  
75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans

**Present:** Dave Stanley, Jane Williams, Mark Bushey, Bethany Remmers, Robert Bessette, Carol Hickey, Don Mueller, Cynthia Scott, Ellen Stanley and Amy Adams.

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

### MEETING MINUTES

*J. Williams moved to accept the minutes of the November 20, 2017 meeting as written; seconded by C. Hickey . Motion passed.*

### FINANCIAL REPORT-

C. Scott presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2017 financial report (July 1, 2017 – Dec 31, 2017). *M. Bushey moved to accept the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report as presented; seconded by E. Stanley. Motion passed.*

**LVRT-Ken Brown, Trail Manager** – unable to attend meeting.

### 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. *J. Williams moved to cast a ballot to elect all 5 nominees; seconded by C. Hickey . Motion passed.*

#### Election of Officers for 2018

C. Hickey conducted the election of Chair. C. Hickey nominated D. Stanley for the office of Chair. No other nominations were made. D. Stanley conducted the election of Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. C. Scott nominated C. Hickey for the office of Vice Chair; R. Bessette nominated C. Scott for the office of Secretary/Treasurer. No other nominations were made for the positions. *J. Williams moved to elect all 3 nominees; seconded by D. Stanley. 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 2017

A. Adams advised that 29 Friends renewed their membership and 5 new members joined (total of 34 Friends); and received \$2,935 in membership dues. The Council discussed options on reaching out to more users and generating more Friends of

the trail. R. Bessette recommended using more social media to advertise the trail and events.

## 2018 ACTIVITIES

- **GREEN UP DAY, MAY 5<sup>th</sup>** – Volunteers will be needed for certain areas of the trail/parking areas. A. Adams will provide green up supplies at the March meeting. J. Williams, C. Scott and C. Hickey offered to volunteer for the Enosburg and Berkshire areas.
- **WELCOME CENTERS** - *E. Stanley made a motion that we renew our contract to have RT Guides distributed through the VT Welcome Centers; seconded by C. Scott. Motion passed. Council's approval will be sought should the cost exceed \$400.*
- **FRANKLIN COUNTY GUIDE** - *C. Scott made a motion that we renew our advertisement in the 2018 Franklin County Guide; seconded by E. Stanley. Motion passed. Council's approval will be sought should the cost exceed \$625 (1/4 page ad plus Chamber membership dues). The deadline is March 22, 2018.*
- **PEDAL/PADDLE** – This Northern Forest Canoe Trail event will take place on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> sponsored by the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, volunteers are needed to help with the pedal portion. C. Scott and C. Hickey offered to volunteer for the event.
- **OTHER** – The Council discussed the option of purchasing or renting a Harley rake to utilize on the trail this upcoming season. It would need to be discussed with VTrans on the use of it on the trail, by whom, etc. The Council discussed events such as marathons, scheduled bike rides for the spring and fall or Show-Up events with RiseVT.

**Weed whacking** – D. Stanley will continue to weed whack.

## UPDATES

- **Franklin County Recreation Collaborative** – B. Remmers updated on the groups meeting looking at recreational opportunities in the county and being able to coordinate events in the region. They are looking at identifying recreational activities, who is providing the service and work on a county wide recreation calendar. The next meeting is March 14, 2018 in Swanton. B. Remmers will email the agenda to the Council.
- **VAST** – M. Bushey reported that the trail has been the best it has been until all the rain. They were able to get a great base.

**OTHER BUSINESS** – R. Bessette is working on keeping the FaceBook page updated and keeping the consistency of content, would like to share VAST materials and get more exposure. R. Bessette asked the Council to share the FaceBook page with their FB friends. There was discussion about asking trail users “why I use the trail” and use that content on our social media sites to promote the use of the trail. The Council will discuss the Mobile ap at the March meeting.

## NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on Monday, March 19, 2018.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Minutes Approved: March 19, 2018