

**Mad River Valley Planning District
Steering Committee
May 19, 2016**

Present were:

Fayston: Carol Chamberlin, Planning Commissioner

Waitsfield: Kari Dolan, Select Board; Steve Shea, Planning Commissioner

Warren: Bob Ackland, Select Board; Jim Sanford, Planning Commissioner

Chamber: Peter MacLaren

MRVPD: Joshua Schwartz

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 21, 2016 Steering Committee were accepted as written.

New Business:

Jim asked if there are still funds available for electric vehicle charging stations, as Warren is interested in applying for an EV grant. Joshua reported that Waitsfield has decided not to seek a grant, and that he will work with Warren on a proposal.

Executive Director's Highlights and Additions:

- Joshua reported that he recently attended a Research on Adaption to Climate Change (RACC) meeting, where he learned that the group has gathered a bit of data relevant to the MRV and would like to plan a workshop for the area once the data has been refined. Their focus will be on BREE – basin resilience to extreme events.
- Kristine Keeney will begin working on June 6.
- The MRV Moves – Active Transportation Plan will be hosting a National Trails Day celebration on June 4, which will involve the Mad River Riders, the Mad River Path Association and others offering tours and raising awareness of the ongoing work on transportation issues. Ice cream will be served.
- The Waitsfield Planning Commission recently had a Town Plan consultation with the RPC focused on S.230 - which provides greater say for municipalities in energy siting projects, as long as appropriate language is included in the Plan. There will also be a regional energy planning effort undertaken by CVRPC.
- Warren's Town Plan is due for re-adoption; Waitsfield and Fayston are both still in five-year windows, although new legislation provides for an eight-year cycle moving forward. Steve suggested that the three towns coordinate their re-adoption efforts.

New Business:

MRVPD Identity Exercise The group made use of the 'golden circle' process as a method for determining clarity of the organization's purpose; Committee members had all previously viewed a TED talk on this method of getting to an understanding of 'why' a group exists.

After a bit of discussion, it was decided that the MRVPD's *why* is because group members "Believe in our MRV community, its beauty and connectedness." Those present felt that this statement reflects the

core reason that the Planning District is in place and is involved in the work and projects it undertakes. Joshua had provided a worksheet asking for further input from the group; those responses will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee is scheduled for June 16, 2016. As is costume, it was decided to take the month of August off this summer.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlin