

## Mad River Valley Planning District

### Steering Committee

June 15, 2017, 7:00 P.M.

General Wait House, Waitsfield

Present were:

Fayston: Jared Cadwell, Selectboard; Don Simonini, Planning Commission

Waitsfield: Kari Dolan, Selectboard; Steve Shea, Planning Commission

Warren: Bob Ackland, Selectboard; Jim Sanford, Planning Commission

Sugarbush: Not present

MRV Chamber of Commerce: Peter MacLaren

CVRPC: Not present

Guests: Kinny Perot & Richard Czaplinski (Friends of the Mad River), Milly Archer (VLCT), Jim Ryan (VT DEC)

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm. Bob Ackland, Chair, brought the meeting to order.

#### **I. Adjustments to the Agenda**

- a. No adjustments were requested.

#### **II. Public Comment**

- a. No public comments were made.

#### **III. Accept Minutes of 5/18/17 Steering Committee Meeting**

- a. Jared moved to accept the minutes, and Don seconded the motion.

#### **IV. New Business- Town Roads & Stormwater**

- a. Ridge to River Initiative (Joshua Schwartz)

- i. Josh provided an overview of the Ridge to River Storm Smart Initiative that is focusing on private roads and driveways because they are not constructed or maintained to the same standard as public roads.
- ii. Storm Smart Challenge Quiz for homeowners to find out if their home is “storm smart.”
- iii. On-site Stormwater Audits: Richard is setting up appointments with homeowners, does a site visit to identify issues and make recommendations. He suggests things they can fixed by hand or calls in extra help with volunteers. 30 pilot visits have been funded thus far.
- iv. Stormwater tool kits & how-to videos will also be included in this effort.

- b. Municipal Roads General Permit (Jim Ryan, VT DEC)

- i. Jim has worked in the MRV previously on road and stormwater projects and administering the Better Back Roads grant program.
- ii. Municipal Road Grant-in-Aid Funding opportunity
  1. Funding for towns based on connected road miles
  2. Eligible work must be on hydrologically connected road segments (bisects or is laterally close to a waterbody). Towns can determine this by using the ANR Atlas
  3. Must bring those segments up to Municipal Roads General Permit standards
  4. 20% town match or in-kind
  5. RPCs will assist towns with mapping
- iii. Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP)
  1. One of the goals is to increase flood resilience and reduce town road maintenance and costs
  2. Catastrophic failures can be avoided if BMPs are in place like appropriate culverts, road crowning, ditches, etc.
  3. Self-reporting is required by towns; towns need to use the ANR Atlas to determine

- their hydrologically connected road segments, complete an inventory, enter the information into the implementation plan and schedule database on the State's website, and then towns are expected to implement their plan.
4. Towns will have to work on steep roads first (within 5 years towns with roads over 10% slope that are connected must be brought up to standards).
  5. Towns have to implement 6% of the segments that don't meet standards annually.
  6. State does a spot check on those segments to see if practices are in place.
- iv. Inventories can be funded with Better Roads Category A Grants; \$8,000 maximum grant award, required 20% local match (can be in-kind).
- v. MRGP Principles
1. Disconnect road stormwater whenever possible, starting at the top of the watershed (reduce volume)
  2. Infiltrate stormwater (treat volume)
  3. Stable conveyances (ditches)
- vi. MRGP Practices
1. Proactive- road grading/crowning, grass and stone-lined ditching or dispersed flow (based on slope), removal of grader berm/lowering of shoulders
  2. Reactive -towns don't have to replace existing culverts unless there is an erosion problem, applies to driveways culverts that are within the ROW but doesn't include perennial stream culverts.
  3. Towns are encouraged to have gravel tested for roadways
  4. French drains or underdrains- where you have wetlands or springs, you can transfer water without installing culverts, allows water to go through the roadbed without undermining it
  5. Remove berms to allow sheet flow off the road
  6. Address erosion from lack of culvert headwall/header- bad angles, poor backfill materials
  7. Driveway culvert erosion and remediation
    - a. Some towns have landowner pay for the culvert, and the town crew will install
    - b. Other towns will take over maintenance of culvert, can use Better Roads grant program if there are other improvements associated with the project.
- vii. MRGP- Town Example
1. Average of 52 town road miles
  2. Half (26) of town road miles are hydrologically connected
  3. Half (13) of those segments already meet standards
  4. Remaining (13) road miles to upgrade
- viii. Timeline
1. Late summer 2017- final draft of permit available, public meetings will be held, and formal public comment will be taken
  2. End of 2017- finalize permit
  3. July 2018- towns apply for permit and pay fees
  4. Fall 2019- towns start inventory
  5. 2020- first implementation requirement
  6. Encouraging towns to start working on road segments now with technical assistance, and towns will get credit and cross it off the to-do list for the future.
- ix. Questions
1. Bob said that Warren's road crew has experienced instances where they said that VTrans isn't being held to the same standard (installing headers on new culverts).

- Jim Ryan said VTrans is being held to a new standard that is being implemented this year. Bob said it presents a challenge for selectboard members that are responsible for telling their road crew that they need to meet the MRGP standards.
2. Jim Sanford asked if the Dept. is also focusing on other things that are contributing to phosphorus in water resources? Jim Ryan said in every sector there are new requirements, like Agriculture for example.
- c. Town Road Access & Drainage (Milly Archer, VLCT)
- i. VLCT is working on a model ordinance or bylaw that towns can use to address town road access (every town does it differently for how private landowners get access to a town road) and road construction and maintenance standards.
  - ii. MRGP permit jurisdiction end at the right of way, leaving remaining stormwater issues related to private roads and driveways.
  - iii. Title 19 VSA 1111(b)- “The Agency or legislative body, within their respective jurisdictions, may make such rules to carry out the provisions of this section as will adequately protect and promote the safety of the traveling public, maintain reasonable levels of service on the existing highway system, and protect the public investment in the existing highway infrastructure, but shall in no case deny reasonable entrance and exit to or from property abutting the highways....”
    1. Gives towns authority to administer curb cut permits.
    2. Based on the language “protect the public investment in the existing highway infrastructure” it looks like towns can divert water onto private property to protect the town road.
    3. But there is case law that says you need to have your ducks in a row before sending water on private property or there could be legal challenges claiming eminent domain and the town could be required to pay monetary damages.
  - iv. Town of Winhall has very strong language about damage to town highways caused by lack of private property maintenance or construction practices. Milly said it’s hard to write a model, because not all towns will want to be that forceful.
  - v. Milly suggested one option to include in a model ordinance is language about “pre-existing non-conforming” private roads or driveways that damage a town road; following damage you have to bring your private road or driveway up to Vtrans standards via the curb cut permit.
    1. Jared said the curb cut access permits do not have the ability to enforce standards beyond the ROW. Language would have to be included in building or zoning permits to deal with private roads/driveways for single-family homes.
    2. Jim Sanford said in Charlotte their regulations make private owners deal with water coming off their roofs on their property. He said it can be expensive for some people if the soil doesn’t drain; they basically have to manufacture a wetland.
    3. Millie said VLCT has [Low Impact Development \(LID\) Stormwater Management Bylaw](#) language that towns can use.
    4. Millie said managing stormwater gets confusing in some cases, especially for development roads because a town will own some part of the road, and the developer owns another part.
    5. Bob said that that the MRV has this issue with development roads that don’t have a condo association, or private roads where some owners just won’t pay for maintenance.

## V. Old Business

### MRVPD Administration

- Transition from CVRPC
  - The MRVPD was aiming to be separated from CVRPC by 7/1, but it's taken a little longer than expected. 8/1 is the new target date, and CVRPC has confirmed that as long as it happens by that date, an agreement between the organizations doesn't need to be signed.
  - Bob and Joshua have been working on many items including setting up a bank account, figuring out payroll benefits, workers comp, etc.
  - MRVPD is going to enroll with VLCT's benefit group, details are still being figured out.
  - Issue with workers comp because insurance company said MRVPD has to be registered with Secretary of State's office, but Secretary of State's office said that the MRVPD is a union municipal district and therefore doesn't need to be registered.
- Wait House Changes
  - The Chamber of Commerce is moving out of the Gen. Wait House and into the Waitsfield House on Bridge Street. Peter said the space is going to work better for them for several reasons, one being they can make changes to the space that were going to be difficult to do at the Wait House. Peter also said that remediation of some building issues will likely be required before the Town can find a new tenant.
  - Joshua said the Chamber leaving means the remaining tenants need to figure out some things like the copier, internet/phone. Waitsfield & Champlain Valley Telecom said they are going to make the transition as painless as possible for the remaining tenants. Joshua said he expects there might some extra costs to the MRVPD as these services would be split between fewer organizations.
  - Kari said the Town talked about the Wait House at it's last Selectboard meeting; they are trying to figure out what makes the most sense in terms of the configuration of the building, storage, rent structure, etc.

### **CVP Update**

- Bob said the full CVP group will be taking the summer off, and a small subcommittee will continue working on specific tasks.
- Bob gave a presentation at the last CVP meeting that encompassed where the Valley is now in terms of demographics and economics. He explained that if the MRV wants to be positioned to take advantage of funding that is anticipated from the state level, we need to have a clear path forward and a governance model.
- Bob presented a first draft of a governance model for recreation in the MRV. The CVP and the MRVPD Steering Committee are the first ones to see it and provide feedback.
  - It has the MRVPD as the umbrella for recreation in the Valley because it has paid staff and is accountable to the public through elected officials from all three towns serving on the Steering Committee. The Rec District would be under the MRVPD umbrella, but would have its own unique board. The goal would be to hire an additional staff person just to focus on recreation.
  - No one from the Rec District was in attendance at the CVP meeting, but Bob is hoping it will be compatible with their upcoming Strategic Plan and the MRVPD can work with them to make this a model that works for the Valley.
  - The reaction from the CVP was concern about buy-in from the selectboards and that the independent recreation organizations wouldn't want to "answer to" the MRVPD or RD. Bob said this structure is an attempt to breakdown silos, eliminate overlap, and increase the effectiveness of all of the groups working on recreation in the MRV.
  - Kari said the MRVRD has traditionally been focused on sports, and it should be expanded to other recreational opportunities including trails. She said this governance model is a great first step.
  - Bob also acknowledged that there is still work to be done to reduce Sugarbush's contribution to the MRVPD.

- Jared said he thinks that administration and staff support is needed at the MRVRD, particularly now because they own land.

## **VI. Staff Report**

- a. Joshua did not do a full overview of the Staff Report due to time. The full Staff Report is attached.
- b. Kristine wanted to highlight one item under the “Housing” section. As an implementation step for affordable housing, Kristine put together a packet with extensive information about a “Tenants for Turns” program that is in place at a few ski resorts out West to present to Sugarbush. Following a meeting with staff at Sugarbush to explain the program, Win Smith approved his staff to move forward with developing a program to launch by the end of this summer for the upcoming ski season.
- c. The program would incentivize homeowners and landowners to create new rental opportunities for Sugarbush’s employees by providing them a season pass/lift tickets. Sugarbush will decide on the incentive as they develop their program guidelines. The idea is to unlock workforce rental opportunities that might otherwise not be rented or rented on a short-term basis. Sugarbush will create an application for homeowners and landlords to get on a list to be given to employees; employees will work directly with homeowners and landlords to come to a rental agreement. Sugarbush will confirm the lease agreement is eligible for the program and provide the incentive to the homeowner or landlord. Only new leases will be eligible for the program.

## **VII. Next Meeting – July 20, 2017**

- a. The Committee usually takes one meeting off a year, it was decided that the August meeting would be canceled.

Bob Ackland made a motion to adjourn and Steve Shea seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Keeney

**Mad River Valley Planning District**  
**Staff Report**  
**June 15, 2017**

Economic Development

- Vermont Downtown Action Team (V-DAT)/CDBG-DR2 Implementation Grants:
  - Warren Main Street Improvement Project:
    - The selected contractor bid on the project based on the construction completion date of 7/3, so they did not take advantage of the extension secured by the Town. Construction began on 6/1.
    - Bob Ackland confirmed that the bridge rehabilitation on Main Street will happen after July 4<sup>th</sup>, but will complete the small section of the Main Street Improvement project that will be left temporary in light of the bridge work.
    - Kristine is working with the Warren PC and the Warren Store to try and acquire a bike rack to help round out the Main Street project.
  - Waitsfield Pocket Park/Lovett Park Project:
    - Construction began on May 24<sup>th</sup>, with major work completed on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Awaiting delivery and then installation of the remaining pieces, including stair railing, signage, and benches. Public is requested to stay out of the park in order to allow landscaping to take hold.
    - The project is substantially completed under time and budget.
    - Joshua and committee member Sam Gulisano developed an interpretive panel for the park, which includes a map, history, and activities.
- The Dashboard data collection and reporting has transitioned from MRVPD to MRVCC. Kristine reminded Stephanie to reach out to contacts by the first of the month to ensure reporting by mid-June for the May Dashboard. Jasmine said the Chamber has been working on making changes to the data collection and working with the Valley Reporter to make changes to the reporting for the Dashboard.
- Community Vitality Project (CVP)
  - Agendas, minutes, and other relevant info is available at <https://www.mrvcpv.org/>
- Joshua and Bob A. met with Ted Brady, Deputy Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, on 5/19 to discuss the intersection of recreation and economic development at both the MRV and the state level.
- VT Smart Growth Summit – 6/16, AARP + VNRC. Joshua will be facilitating a small group focusing on wastewater infrastructure and Lawson’s Finest Liquids as an example smart growth project.

Flood Resilience/Water Quality/Climate Change

- Joshua has continued his discussion with Chris Koliba UVM professor in the Public Administration, Public Policy & Governance Community Development & Applied Economics Department about a public event focused on results from recent climate change research (RACC & BREE) focused on the MRV. The intention is to hold such a community presentation in early fall.
- Joshua participated in a meeting with MRV librarians (Waitsfield, Warren & Moretown) on 5/22 focused on developing programming focused on environmental literacy. The librarians are interested in MRVPD sharing recent MRV-specific flood resilience climate work as part of this PLACE grant supported project.
- Joshua has accepted to serve as an advisory committee in support of the VT EPSCoR research project: Basin Resilience to Extreme Events (BREE). BREE’s overarching goal is to provide basic and applied scientific understanding to the resilience of Lake Champlain’s watersheds and communities. Joshua, along with Steering Committee member Karie Dolan, are serving on the BREE Policy and Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC), comprising of 15 to 20 experts from federal, state, regional and local

government, national labs, nonprofits and economic development interests to provide input to the BREE team of researchers and modelers.

- Joshua attended the 5/25 PTAC kick-off meeting, which is one of the day-long meetings being held twice a year. The meeting was designed to provide updates on BREE project work, solicit input into the development of scenarios and the decision-support tools, as well as provide suggestions for model output utilization.
- Joshua will be interviewed about the MRV's flood resilience efforts on Carl Etnier's radio show, Relocalizing Vermont. The interview takes place on 6/15, 9 am, on WGDR/WGDH.
- Joshua attended the 6/1 Ridge to River Taskforce meeting, which focused on next steps for the work (the grant closed out in April). The R2R Taskforce will be moving from monthly to bi-monthly gatherings.
- Using federal Clean Water Act funds passed through from the State, CVRPC will be conducting a gap analysis for riparian buffers within the Mad River Watershed. The Friends of the Mad River will use the analysis to target landowner outreach for planting or conservation projects.
- VT DEC has announced its [Ecosystem Restoration Grants](#) for 2017, which fund work that improves water quality and span agriculture, forestry, river, lake, stormwater, and road projects as well as scoping, planning and implementation phases. The RFP notes the next 4 round deadlines with the first on 7/6 and the next on 9/19. The R2R work has resulted in a list of potential projects – of which Corrie Miller of FMR has provided to each MRV town. Eligibility spans municipalities, regional organizations (i.e. MRVPD), non-profit associations, and citizens groups. Match is not required, but ability to provide match, through in-kind services or cash, is a factor in grant scoring criteria.
- Vermont's RPC & DEC have invited municipalities to participate in a new Municipal Roads Grants-In-Aid Pilot Project. The intent of this new pilot project is to provide funding for municipalities to implement best management practices (BMPs) on municipal roads ahead of the forthcoming DEC Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP). DEC has set aside \$2.5 million to support this pilot project and will work with the RPCs to make available grant funds to all participating Vermont municipalities that agree to terms. Letters of intent to participate are due on 7/5.
  - CVRPC has created a hydrologically connected road maps for all our municipalities: <http://centralvtplanning.org/programs/transportation/>.
  - Please direct questions to Daniel Currier, Program Manager, [currier@cvregion.com](mailto:currier@cvregion.com) or 802-229-0389. <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-information-applications-fees/municipal-roads-program>.
- CVRPC is undertaking "connected road" inventories in a variety of MRV towns. Connected roads are sections of the road network that are connected to surface waters through ditches, culverts or other drainage structures. Connected roads present greater risk to water quality. Such inventories are required via the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- CVRPC is leading a stream geomorphic assessment on the Mad River and some of its tributaries in Moretown. The project will look at the impacts to the physical nature and fish habitat health of the streams. The assessment will provide data necessary for a River Corridor Plan for Moretown – which will be used to prioritize projects that improve water quality, flood resilience and habitat enhancement.

### Transportation

- The MRV Transportation Advisory Committee will meet on 6/14 to provide updates about current transportation projects, discuss 16/17 Mad Bus ridership, and begin planning service for next season.
  - The group is hoping to get an answer from GMT about the availability of funding to support possible service at Mad River Glen next season. Kristine will follow up with MRG after the meeting about potential next steps.
- Sugarbush Access Road Path & Inferno Rd Trail Scoping Studies

- The final study has been wrapped up and approved by the Selectboard. Next steps are to work with the Warren Selectboard to determine if they would like the MRVPD's help in applying for grant funding for the design and construction of part of the proposed path.
- The final study is available on the Town of Warren's [website](#).
- This project is eligible for the VTrans Bike and Ped Grant Program Design/Construction category, deadline to apply is July 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Waitsfield West Sidewalk Project
  - Right-of-way (ROW) agreements are drafted and waiting on approval from VTrans. Negotiations with property owners are expected to begin this month.
  - Draft final engineering plans have been submitted to the Town to accompany the State Highway Access permit that is a necessary step in the ROW process.
  - Preparation of the SH Access permit may include a memo from the project engineer addressing the criteria for marked crosswalks; Kristine sent Kevin and the project engineer data gathered by MRVPD on pedestrian crossing counts at the proposed crosswalk locations at the Valley Players & the Village Grocery.
  - This is a project that Joshua has been working on since 2010.
- Kristine is working with VTrans to install bike counters on Rt. 100 in Waitsfield and Rt. 17 in Fayston on 6/14. The Valley will be the first place in the State to have Vtrans' new bike counters installed on a state highway.
- VTrans restriped the bike lanes on Route 100 much earlier than normal in the season; however Kristine had to work with them to fix some of the markings that were incorrect or missing.
- VTrans announced the [2017 Bike and Ped Grant Program](#). The application deadline is 1:00pm, Friday, 7/14. The Bike/Ped Program provides funding for three types of projects:
  - Scoping study for a project that has not yet been evaluated (Scoping, 50/50 funding split)
  - Design and Construction of a project using Federal funds (Design/Construction, 80/20)
  - Small-scale construction of a project using State fund (Small-scale, 50/50)
- Kristine attended a wrap-up of the 2016/2017 Mad Bus service season at Sugarbush on 6/5, representatives from GMT and Sugarbush were in attendance (including Win Smith).
- CVRPC is seeking proposals for transportation planning projects to be completed in CY 2017. CVRPC will complete up to \$20,000 in transportation special projects and studies using funding from the Vermont Agency of Transportation's Transportation Planning Initiative. Project ideas should be submitted in writing to Daniel Currier, Program Manager, [Currier@cvregion.com](mailto:Currier@cvregion.com) by June 16, 2017.

## Housing

- Kristine is finalizing the 2017 MRV Housing Study, which updates the 2006 version. A final draft is completed and staff is working on editing it for the final version. Kristine also recently completed a draft of the ~30 page summary document that will be easier to read and digest.
- The Mad River Valley Housing Coalition did not meet on 6/8 because Kristine was attending a conference. The next meeting will be on 7/13, 8am at the General Wait House.
- Tiny House Pilot Project
  - Kristine and a representative from Downstreet met with Norwich University to look at model tiny houses on campus and discussed a grant opportunity to finance the completion of a partially finished tiny house for transport and installation at Vermont Mobile Home Park in Waitsfield. Kristine is working with both organizations to move this effort forward.
  - Kristine had conversations with Dean Pierce, Director of Planning & Zoning in Shelburne, regarding zoning considerations for the tiny house in their mobile home park. She has also spoke to Arthur Hamlin, Housing Program Coordinator at the Department of Housing & Community Development, to understand regulations about mobile home parks and how they may or may not apply to tiny houses.

- Kristine spoke with an appraiser that was recommended by Northfield Savings Bank to see if/how much the proposed tiny house(s) would appraise for in order to discern if working with Northfield Savings Bank is an option on financing. He said an appraisal would likely be between \$1,000-1,200 because he has not done one before.
- Kristine had a phone call with a woman who owns the Norwich-built CASA 802 tiny house and provided some insight into her experience with locating a tiny house in a mobile home park in Shelburne.
- Kristine met with Sugarbush on 5/31 to discuss the possibility of doing a pilot tiny house project for employees on a parcel of land on the Access Rd. Margo said she thought it was a possibility and they would look into wastewater requirements with the State. Kristine also spoke with Miron, Warren Zoning Administrator, to understand past zoning permits and other considerations for a possible project.
- Kristine was contacted by someone in Waterbury who has started a tiny house building company following the most recent article in the Valley Reporter about tiny houses. She spoke to him about the MRVPD's efforts and also provided him some insight gained from the process for his consideration as well.
- Kristine spoke to Ward Symth of Turtle Creek Builders; he is currently building himself a tiny house for personal use and doesn't plan to build them as part of his business. He offered to be involved in the affordable housing/tiny house effort as it moves forward.
- Kristine had a follow-up conversation with Mike Crowley, Executive Director of Yestermorrow, about possibly collaborating on an affordable housing project. They are interested in working on tiny houses as a strategy to address affordable housing in the MRV.
- Kristine put together a packet of information regarding Tenants for Turns (a housing matching program between local landlords/homeowners and resort employees) that included feedback from the program administrators of resorts from around the country. Kristine then met with Sugarbush on 5/31 to discuss the possibility of getting a program up and running for the 2017/2018 ski season. Sugarbush had a meeting scheduled for 6/13 to discuss the possibility moving forward with the program.
- Kristine met with Peter Oliver on 5/22 to discuss his perspective on the affordable housing issue given his familiarity with the issue across the country in other resort areas.

### Recreation

- Joshua's currently working with a variety of stakeholders in developing an agenda for the 2017 MRV Trails Summit, the objective of which would be to provide contact and communication between community groups engaged in trail-based recreation in the MRV, identify shared priorities, & develop opportunities for further collaboration.
- Joshua and Kristine attended the [VT Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference](#) on 6/8 in White River Junction.
  - Joshua presented the MRV Moves Plan as part of a session focused on Complete Streets.
  - Joe Minicozzi a real estate developer based in Asheville, NC, who has cross-trained in city planning in the public and private sectors, as well as private sector real estate finance, provided the keynote. Joe explored the important role that tax policy and the market play in land use planning, zoning, placemaking and capital improvement planning. Here's a link to some of this work focusing on the cost of development that show how the market and tax revenue effect various land use patterns and how they stack up against traditional downtown districts. Here's a link to a TED talk that Joe gave a few years back: <https://youtu.be/wQRD51k41IM>.
- Mad River Path Updates:
  - MRVPD and MRPA have been working closely together on a concept plan for Phase 1 & 2 to upgrade the existing Waitsfield Village Path in Irasville. Business owners in the area have expressed interest in an upgraded Mad River Path. Kristine has done the GIS and mapping work

(and continues to update it) to create concept plans to show to the MRPA Board, interested business owners, property owners, and the Town of Waitsfield.

- Kristine is working with the Path about a potential connection from the signed crosswalk on Route 100 to the driveway of the Big Picture Theater. Kristine will help facilitate the on-going design of the path segment between all parties, including VTrans.

### Mapping

- Kristine and Iliyan Deskov have begun work on GIS analysis of water and wastewater infrastructure in Waitsfield to determine the additional capacity for wastewater in both Irasville and Waitsfield Village. They are awaiting answers to additional questions about the data from the Town of Waitsfield in order to move forward with the project.

### Sugarbush

- The District Commission approved Sugarbush's Act 250 amendment requesting approval to extend hours of operation to play amplified music during the Friendly Gathering music festival scheduled 6/29-7/1/17.
- Joshua submitted a letter of support on behalf MRVPD expressing support to the District Commission for Sugarbush's recent lift replacement applications (#5W1045-39 & #5W1045-40).
- The District Commission provided draft land use permits for Sugarbush's Act 250 amendment for the replacement of the existing Village Chair & Sunshine Lifts (#5W1045-39 & #5W1045-40).
- Kristine attended a wrap-up of the 2016/2017 Mad Bus service season at Sugarbush on 6/5, representatives from GMT and Sugarbush were in attendance (including Win Smith).
- Kristine has been working with Sugarbush extensively on the Tenants for Turns program. More info in the *Housing* section.
- Sugarbush submitted its MOU report for the 2016-2017 season to MRVPD on 5/12. This is scheduled to be a primary agenda item for the July MRVPD Steering Committee meeting.

### Historic Preservation

- Devin Colman of the VT Division of Historic Preservation reached out to Joshua about the possibility of starting to list some of the Mad River Valley's design/build projects of the 1960s in the National Register. Some of the earliest ones, such as the Tack House, are already more than 50 years old and others are approaching that benchmark in the coming years. One thought is to prepare a Multiple Property Form (MPF) for design/build projects in the MRV, under which individual properties could be nominated if/when the owners want to do so. The MPF serves as a cover document for individual nominations and contains all of the basic information about the design/build movement and its historic and architectural significance; that way, this basic information doesn't need to be repeated in each individual nomination. This is a potential CLG grant project. Applications for 2018 projects will be sent out this fall.

### Energy

- The Central VT Regional Energy Committee met to discuss the draft regional energy plan. The draft plan will be presented to the 6/13 CVRPC Commission mtg, and will be submitted to the Public Service Department by 6/30.

### Hazard Mitigation Planning

- Fayston formally adopted its Hazard Mitigation Plan in May. The final adopted plan has been sent to FEMA for acceptance.
- Warren will need to begin its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan update this year.

- Joshua will serving on a VT Emergency Management Planning & Policy working group as part of VEM's update of the VT Hazard Mitigation Plan. The cross-sector working group will have its first mtg on 6/15.

#### Municipal:

- The Program Description for FY18 Municipal Planning Grants, including competitive criteria for the upcoming grant round, will be issued in late June 2017. Applications will be due Fall 2017. The [FY17 Program Description](#) details the requirements for the past round of MPG applications. Visit the [Application Page](#) for more information about the application process. Currently, grants under \$8k do not have a required match.
- Kristine and Joshua attended the Waitsfield Planning Commissions Town Plan community meeting on 6/6. Over 40 people were in attendance. The consultant's **Power Point Presentation** is available [here](#) under the June 6, 2017 Planning Commission meeting date.

#### Other:

- Kristine and Joshua have been working with the Chamber to explore opportunities to adapt the current Chamber logo for use by the Planning District and in other circumstances around the Valley. Joshua and Kristine met with Jasmine and the designer on 5/30 to provide context for and expectation for the draft set of nesting logos. The plan is to get the logo to a place when it makes sense to commence stakeholder meetings to receive feedback.
- Joshua connected Yestermorrow with the MRVRD re: Mad River Park as a potential client for their [public interest design build](#) course this summer. Many thanks to Kari Dolan for suggesting this project at the May MRVPD SC mtg.
- PH International (Project Harmony (PH)) in Waitsfield is seeking partners organizations to host Russian university students this summer for one week of service learning/community service work that related to environmental sustainability. Feel free to reach out to PH International Program Manager, Ivan Tabanin (496-4545, [ivan.tabanin@ph-int.org](mailto:ivan.tabanin@ph-int.org)) to discuss possible activities/brainstorm/etc.
- MRVPD participated in a meeting of tenants and the town of Waitsfield regarding their future roles and responsibilities as they relate to the General Wait House. The MRV Chamber is moving out of the Gen. Wait House and into the Waitsfield House (corner of Bridge and Main St) on 7/1.
- 6/6 marked one year of Kristine working with the MRVPD. Joshua met with Kristine and undertook a performance evaluation.