

**Mad River Valley Planning District
Steering Committee Meeting
Draft Meeting Minutes for
April 9th, 2015
7:00 P.M.
Sugarbush Lower Administration Building
2405 Sugarbush Access Rd.**

Present:

Fayston: Jared Cadwell, Selectman; Carol Chamberlin, Planning Commissioner

Waitsfield: Kari Dolan, Selectboard Member; Steve Shea, Planning Commissioner

Warren: Bob Ackland, Selectboard Member; Jim Sanford, Planning Commissioner

Sugarbush: Margo Wade

MRV Chamber of Commerce: Peter MacLaren

MRVPD: Joshua Schwartz, Dara Torre

Guests: Patricia Floyd, Rachel Goff (Valley Reporter)

Acceptance of the minutes of the March 19, 2015 – minutes were approved.

Director's Report: Joshua discussed some highlights from the past month, including the Vermont Public Places award to the CDGB-funded VT Downtown Action Team (VDAT) project, which included work in the villages of Waitsfield and Warren. CDBG implementation projects are moving forward in both towns, with the Waitsfield pocket park project currently under review; notice of approval is expected next week. Joshua and Dara have been assisting Cindi Jones with meeting the award conditions for the Warren Main Street Improvement project. Five members of the MRVPD Steering Committee attended the recent Leahy Summit, out of which a proposal spearheaded by Friends of the Mad River is in the works. The proposal is for a watershed-wide task force to explore stormwater management. An initial round of funding is available through the High Meadows Fund, with applications due 4/15/15. Joshua provided an update on the MRV Active Transportation Plan, for which an RFP will be submitted in the couple of weeks.

Sugarbush Update: Margo updated the committee on the Gadd Brook project, noting that progress is being made with the Warren Fire Department. Draft agreements are being reviewed, with plans to present at the Warren Development Review Board meeting on 4/20/15. Joshua submitted a letter in support of the project to the District 5 Environmental Commission on 3/31/2015. Margo reported that Act 250 and Town of Warren Zoning applications have been prepared for replacing the Valley House chair; MRVPD will receive a copy next week for review. Joshua will review the application and make a recommendation at the next steering committee meeting. Discussion of the recent Act 250 denial of the Mountainside condo project ensued.

MRV Vision & Vitality: Peter reported that progress has been made by the Vision & Vitality Steering Committee (VVSC), comprised of representatives from the MRV Chamber of Commerce, MRVPD, and 8 at-large members. The vision documents are being finalized, and workshops have been developed and scheduled, starting with a beta-

test with the VVSC on Friday. An interactive community activity around the vision is planned, with the goal of building consensus and recommendations for moving forward. The committee has completed some benchmark research of other communities, including Killington. The potential for future MRVPD and Chamber collaboration has also been discussed, with the suggestion of analyzing both organizations to identify gaps and opportunities. A functional map exercise is planned for the MRVPD at tonight's meeting.

MRVPD FY16 Workplan: Bob updated the group about a recent MRVPD Executive Committee meeting, at which a more manageable work plan recommended.

New Business: Patricia Floyd, Warren resident and volunteer consultant to the Vision & Vitality Steering Committee, led the group in creating an MRVPD Super System Map. The process involved evaluating the MRVPD as an organization within the larger community context, identifying resources, constraints, and customer groups.

Executive Session: The committee went into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 8:55PM, ending at 9:37PM. The meeting adjourned at 9:37PM.

Next Meeting: May 21, 2015 at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dara Torre