

LVRTC  
 The Lamoille Valley Rail Trail  
 Management Committee

**MEETING MINUTES - DECEMBER 09, 2009**

StoneGrill Restaurant & Pub, Morrisville, Vermont

**ATTENDEES**

**Members (*np* = not present)**

Laird MacDowell ( <i>Chair</i> )	Mike O'Hara	Steve Larrabee	Al Spitzer
Bethany Remmers ( <i>np</i> )	Dan Zucker ( <i>Sec'ty</i> )	Red Goodman ( <i>np</i> )	Zeke Zucker ( <i>Vice Chair</i> )
Mike Farmer	Andy Gilbert	Danny Hale ( <i>np</i> )	

**Non-Members**

Bryant Watson (VAST)	Jesse Hudson (VAST)	Dave Guilderdale	Al Roberston
Joe Cicia (VAST)	Jim Hill (VAST)	Ethan Ready (Sander's Office)	

**Call To Order:** 6:50 pm by Laird

**General Presentation by Laird:**

Laird discussed the Catamount Trail and other rec trails and their relationship to the LVRT. General discussion ensued. No action was taken.

**Secretary's Report** (from November, 2009 meeting):

No Discussion.

<p><i>Moved: Mike O.          Seconded: Zeke.          Vote: Approved (unan.)</i></p>
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**Treasurer's Report:**

Report was unavailable Mike Farmer. Mike reported there is roughly \$11k in cash.

<p><i>No action was taken,          report unavailable.</i></p>
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**Bryant Watson's Report:**

The general presentation surrounded the process of the Environmental Court action on the appeal of the DC's JO. The 20-day filing period ends on 12/10.

- There are five *pro se* requests for participation in the appeal hearing.
- The EC can now move forward to schedule the hearing (no others can claim party status)
- We believe the meeting will be face-to-face (the court retains the right to operate via phone conference).

- The Vermont Natural Resources Council is representing Scarlott & McLowd.
- The VNRC claims that Scarlott & McLowd are operating a commercial operation and that the LVRT interferes with their ability to conduct business. They claim that the LVRT will cause their clients to be unable to access their property.
- The EC should be able to rule by the end of the month, although not to expect a resolution at the end of March.
- Because the LVRT is a railbanked railway, the state cannot overrule that status and the fact that the railbed can be reverted back to an operating railway. The railbed cannot be reverted to ownership by a landowner.

**Al Robertson's Report:**

- Todd Sumner (VTRANS) has informed us that there are still no comments on our resource identification documentation (6 months after submittal).
- The VTRANS historical/archeological assessment has not been started.
- There appears to be no movement from VTRANS on any obligation to move the LVRT forward.

**Sander's Office Report (Ethan R.):**

General discussion of status of project.

**LAC Report (Bethany Remmers not present):**

**Friends of the LVRT (Red not present):**

**SUBCOMMITTEES**

**Law Enforcement - Danny Hale (not present):** NTR

**Communications - Red Goodman (not present):** NTR

**Maintenance - Al Spitzer:** NTR

**Policy - Zeke Zucker:** Laird assigned to the subcommittee the task of determining a "Segway Policy".

**Public Relations - Andy Gilbert:** Laird offered the subcommittee report. He mentioned that he is very impressed with The Imagination Company and the quality of their work in presenting the LVRT to the public.

**Fundraising:** Ken H. (not present)

**New Business:** Mike O. mentioned that there was a Danville landowner meeting where citizens inquired about the status of the project, and appeared dismayed at the obstructionism by the state and a few citizens.

**Adjournment:** 8:15pm

<p><i>Moved: Zeke Seconded: Andy G. Vote: Approved (unan.)</i></p>
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