

LVRTC  
 The Lamoille Valley Rail Trail  
 Management Committee

**MEETING MINUTES - FEBRUARY 10, 2010**

StoneGrill Restaurant & Pub, Morrisville, Vermont

**ATTENDEES**

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

Laird MacDowell ( <i>Chair</i> )	Mike O'Hara	Steve Larrabee	Al Spitzer ( <i>np</i> )
Bethany Remmers	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 (VTRANS)	Al Roberston
Joe Cicia (VAST)	Todd Sumner (VTRANS)		

**Call To Order:** 6:35 pm by Laird

**Secretary's Report** (from January, 2010 meeting):

No Discussion. The secretary did not note that the report was moved or officially approved.

Moved: ??  
 Seconded: ??  
 Vote: ??

**Treasurer's Report (Mike Farmer):**

Report was submitted by Mike Farmer.

Income                \$35,406.69  
 Expenses            \$41,721.35  
 Net                    (\$6364.66)

Moved: Mike O'  
 Seconded: Laird  
 Vote: Approved (unan.)

**Bryant Watson's Report:**

Status conf. w/ EC Judge Wright took place in late January. Judge suggested dividing the 8 questions and take #1 & 2 out. She could rule on those two quickly:

1. appeal not filed in a timely manner
2. appeal not informing (noticing) all interested parties

Bryant noted that if Judge rules in favor of LVRTC then we're left w/ the original JO ruling.

Bryant reported that VAST and counsel agreed to this recommendation since we have agreement w/ members of senate (Sens. Mazza & Shumlin) to change wording of rail banking to define "interim trail use" to include "for transportation purposes". That agreement (w/ EC Court) was filed Monday prior to this meeting in a "Stipulated scheduled order" to the judge. Timeline:

- defendant has 30 days to respond
- LVRTC has 15 days to respond to defendant response

In legislature:

- Mazza & Shumlin will be trying to shepherd through the railbanking wording change.
- In House, as to be added to house transportation bill as an amendment. VNRC and others might get actively involved.
- The senate transportation bill will have this amendment.
- It then goes to "reconciliation" in conference committee.

Side discussion ensued about Mississquoi Trail and stimulus funds for resurfacing.

#### **Al Robertson's Report:**

- Permitting Status: We are beginning to get good comments on resource identification report. Should be good to go ahead on Categorical Exclusion (CE) application process.
- Expect to have CE by next month.
- Lost \$20k on VYCC grant due to delays ("use it or lose it")
- Great progress has been made on 25% plan

#### **Sander's Office Report (Ethan R. not present):**

#### **LAC Report (Bethany Remmers):**

LAC met last Tuesday. Landowner DB is coming along. Johnson is up to 90% complete. Fairfield has no tax maps - being picked apart manually.

#### **Friends of the LVRT (Red):**

"Everyone is on hold" (quote from Heidi). They want a head's up if they need to get a phone tree going.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEES**

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

**Communications - Red Goodman:** NTR

**Maintenance - Al Spitzer (not present):** NTR

**Policy - Zeke Zucker:** NTR

**Public Relations - Andy Gilbert:** We've updated the Imagination Company (IC) on project status. We don't want to "lead them on" if we don't have the Act 250 issue resolved.

Discussion ensued on IC and other work it's doing for VAST.

#### **Fundraising:** Ken H.

\$500 received will come from Cross State Trail Riding Assoc.

\$750 from two snowmobile clubs in Lamoille County

\$85.90 from Roundup Program

Tax Form Checkbox status: much debate in legislature on how this should be implemented in general. no likely progress.

Got inquiry from LocalMotion to give a presentation on rail trail on June 16<sup>th</sup>. It would be an update for local motion supporters - not an event w/ potential donors.

**New Business (Laird):**

- Original new business items covered in above discussion about IC and LocalMotion.
- Nancy Schulz submitted a bill about use of the sides of public roads for pedestrians, bikes, etc. (user's rights). Held up in the past by Richard Westman. This bill will bring us up to date w/ other states.
- IC stated we can use material they've produced to-date

**Adjournment:** 7:40pm

*Moved: Mike O'.  
Seconded: Bethany R.  
Vote: Approved (unan.)*