

LVRTC Minutes

September 10, 2008, 6:30 pm
Stonegrill Restaurant & Pub

Committee Members Present: Steve Larrabee Laird McDowell, *Chair*
Chip Sawyer Alan Spitzer Dan Zucker, *Secretary*
Dave Polow Zeke Zucker, *Vice Chair* Julius 'Red' Goodman
Dan Hale

Committee Members Absent: Mike O'Hara

Other Attendees: Alan Roberston, *Project Engineer* Todd Sumner, *LTF Project Mgr*
Ken Heopner, *Fundraising Consultant* Jim Hill Mike Farmer
Bryant Watson Jesse Leach

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by Laird.

Public Comments: None

Introduction of Mike Farmer:

Laird introduced Mike Farmer to the group. He is a candidate for an open committee position representing motorized users.

Secretary's Report:

Moved by Red, seconded by Chip. Motion approved, one absention.

Financial Report:

Laird reported, with no further details:

FY Starting Balance	\$28,000.00
<u>FY-to-date Expenditures Ending Aug 31st</u>	<u>-15,564.86</u>
FY-to-date Balance Ending Aug 31 st	\$12,435.84

The report was moved by Mike O. and seconded by Zeke Z.

Further discussion included a new Budget being managed by VAST as a separate set of accounts w/in the VAST financial structure – these accounts to also include expenses and revenue to document the financial reporting month-to-month. There were two budgets presented: the end of the '08 FY (ending 9/30/08) and the '09 FY (ending 9/30/09). The budgets were presented on paper and are available from VAST on request.

Byrant Watson's Report:

VHB is at mile 30 for the environmental assessment, doing wetlands delineation, after 6 days. They are estimating faster progress in the near future, possibly 8mi/day.

Bryant reported that there is extensive procedural confusion on the part of District Environmental Coordinators in regard to the categorical exclusion phase of the the LTF prior to an Act 250 jurisdictional opinion being issued. VAST lawyer Steve Raines to assist with a meeting between interested parties that will take place in near future.

Alan Roberston's Project Engineering Report:

- VHB is currently working with a two-team wetland delineation force. The forward team doing wetland flagging, and the follow-up team records flag positions and culvert inverts w/ GPS.
- Next phase is Historical & Bridges for “resource identification” phase in LTF process.
- Data to be used in CE process as well.
- Estimates that 10/10/08 review decision on management plan (state waiting on results of Federal Highway review process.

- Visited Walden for discussion of trailhead development – resulted in positive progress and attitude from selectboard.

Chip Sawyer's LAC Report:

MP was distributed to membership for review. They discussed the “prototype” phase. LAC expressed interest in how VAST will proceed w/ decision-making for actual construction once permits are obtained. LAC advises that we present plan for decision-making for construction prior to permit approval for the sake of expediency.

LAC also expressed interest in constituency outreach for input and insight. No recommendations were made at this time.

The LAC is still looking for two members to fill vacated positions (business representation from Lamoille and the NEK).

Friends Report: Nothing to report.

(Laird noted that the next 'summit' meeting is October 8th, 5pm, at the Stonegrill prior to the LVRTC meeting.)

Ethan Ready's Bernie Sanders Office Report: Nothing to report (Ethan was not present).

Sub-Committee Reports:

Law Enforcement: Nothing to report.

Communications: Nothing to report.

Maintenance: Nothing to report.

Policy & Development: Nothing to report. Zeke expressed interest in committee to work on advising LVRTC on staged development/opening of trail

Fundraising: Ken H. reviewed & submitted printed report detailing contacts, prospects and likelihood of successful contacts. The report included \$28k in pledged support.

New Business:

- Laird discussed response to Caledonia Record article that contained extensive mis-information. Bryant wrote letter detailing and correcting project information, confirmed it appeared in print as written.
- Mike Farmer's letter of intent to join LVRTC was reviewed and discussed. Farmer presented himself to committee. Zeke moved approving his membership. Chip seconded. Acceptance was unanimous.
- LVRTC election of officers: Danny Hale moved current slate, Chip seconded. Approved unanimously. Laird made verbal promise to rotate duties of substitute secretary in the event of the current secretary's absence (currently D. Zucker).
- Danny Hale was nominated by Laird as Financial officer, approved unanimously.
- FY09 budget review – submitted by Bryant (see details, available from VAST – not attached to these minutes). Acceptance of budget was moved by Red and seconded by Danny Hale. Budget approved unanimously.
- Laird presented a request from the Friends to have a board position permanently staffed by a Friends member. Dave Polow presented his understanding of Heidi Krantz's rationale. Dan Zucker moved that discussion and any related motions be tabled until after the MP has been approved or denied. Seconded by Danny Hale. Motion passed unanimously.
- Danny Hale raised issue of tracking trailhead development – suggested this be addressed in subsequent meeting (that is, that the LVRTC track development of these projects, even though the projects typically fall under the responsibilities of municipalities).

Mike moved (Zeke seconded) to adjourn at 8:35pm.