

MRBA Meeting Minutes Thursday February 6th, 2025: MRBA Office

Attendees: Paul Stanley, John Little, Sarah Lunn, Lindsey Wight, Dany Boyle, Michael K., Nate in office; Ruby Bratcher, Sarah Cushing, Debbie Girouard, Ellen Fox, Craig Cimmons, Cynthia Scott, Brian Jerosé, Wendy Scott via zoom

- 1) Meeting called to order at 6:32pm
- 2) CS motioned to accept January meeting minutes, DB seconded, minutes approved.
- 3) Administrative business
 - January Check Warrant - CS motioned to accept, DB seconded; JL+ CC abstained
 - Lindsey review? - JL + LW will connect
 - 2025 Budget and workplan - detailed overview of current standings. If low on capacity hours: set up subcommittees - volunteer hours.
 - ECO for 25/26? - Yes
- 4) Grants/funding update:
 - BIL funding paused - Nursery; Land Acquisition? - At what point do we seek other funds; or do we pull the plug? Ducks Unlimited? We could still buy our 10-acre parcel; let the town do what they feel is the right move - would we want to do this? How much do we devote to moving this forward? Upcoming costs include the need for a survey of the Town parcel (to be compliant with the BIL funding source): \$1,500-2,000? Survey of the Piano Parcel: \$3,000- 5,000? For now: hold off on survey. Michael can connect with regional coordinator for Ducks Unlimited. Probably safe to not put all our eggs in to BIL basket. Trust for Public Land (Learning Landscape) as another potential source?
 - Awarded: LCBP Stream Wise; WUV Woody Buffer (2 sites - Eburg and Lowell?); WUV Dam Removal (some funds; still need more).
 - Awaiting: LCBP E&O (municipal workshops); LCBP Org Support
 - Applied: VTFWD Watershed Grant (Sleeper Pond Dam monitoring)
 - Upcoming/ongoing: invited to apply for WUV E&O funds; several ideas from staff. Need more funds for Sleeper Pond Dam removal.
 - Staff update: Improved grant and hours tracking methods. Look into legal/HR. VYCC legal/HR resources?
- 5) Outreach/fundraising
 - Ruby in conversation about possible trivia at Jay Peak. Does not look like Jay Peak will work out as host for the event. Looking into other venues - Shoe, The Abbey, Lions Club
 - 2025 events and activities:
 - Open House – May 18.
 - Clean-Up – July 20 in Highgate
 - Continued discussion of other ideas for fundraisers/events: Jay Peak trivia? Jay Peak poster w/QR “donate” - make the association between skiing and clean water; event (or at least table) at Jay during spring runoff/Pond Skim (April 19), custom shirt? Do we want to keep doing the fall knotweed bonfire? - Yes.
- 6) Other business: VYCC work - do knotweed removal?
- 7) Next meeting - March 6, 2025 – MRBA office

Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm