

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

Attendees: Paul Stanley, John Little, Sarah Lunn, Lindsey Wight, Dany Boyle, Ruby Bratcher, Debbie Girouard, Ellen Fox, Cynthia Scott, Brian Jerosse, Wendy Scott in office, Sarah Cushing via zoom

- 1) Meeting called to order at 6:35pm
- 2) Review of February meeting minutes: Carryover topics (not on agenda): ECO for 25/26 - host site application is due Mar 14; should hear by Mar 21 if we are selected as a site for next year. Same cost as last year. Americorps - we are applying for a new member. JS motioned, CS seconded, all in favor.
- 3) Administrative business
February Check Warrant - see attached CS motioned, PS seconded, all in favor, JL abstained
Lindsey review - JL and LW met today (3/6/25) for a review. Very positive.
2025 Budget and workplan updates. Discussion about methods of reducing phosphorus.
Americorps - we are applying for a new member
- 4) Grants/funding update:
BIL funding update - Nursery; Land Acquisition
Land Acquisition: unfrozen, but likely to need to borrow money - consider sources and options
Nursery: also unfrozen - amended work plan submitted (Jay vs Troy property); need interior storage space to store equipment before we have a structure built, so we can buy (and spend the grant dollars) asap - Burtons? Jacques?
\$ for acquiring the land for the nursery in Jay - \$350,000.00 Ellen reviewed what the options are.
Awaiting: Lake Champlain Basin Program - Education & Outreach (municipal workshops);
VTFWD Watershed Grant (Sleeper Pond Dam monitoring)
(RE)Applied: LCBP Org Support
Upcoming/ongoing: invited to apply for WUV E&O funds; several ideas from staff. Need more funds for Sleeper Pond Dam removal. We are good candidates for Quisp \$
- 5) Policies and Procedures update: Improved grant and hours tracking methods. Using an hours tracking document. Scope of work for an HR consultant. Review of suggestions for an HR person. Write out what the acronyms mean. Make sure the HR consultant understands the non profit experience. LW send document to the board. Subcommittees- table for now
- 6) Projects:
2025 tree planting - Vaillancourt's on Tyler Branch Road, Enosburg. Ted.
LaRosa sampling - 17 sites - Giddings Brook, the rest are on the Eastern side
Trout River Bank Stabilization and Sleeper Pond Dam - RFP drafts in progress

7) Outreach/fundraising

2025 events and activities:

Open House – May 18.

Clean-Up – July 20 in Highgate

Possible trivia night at the Snowshoe - Can John talk to John Z at the Snowshoe?

Sleeper Pond dam...

Setting up a meeting with Ted at Jay Peak to make the association between skiing and clean water: event (or at least table) at Jay during spring runoff/Pond Skim (April 19)
suggestion for MRBA to sponsor a Fishing Derby, Jay Peak w/QR “donate”; custom shirt?

8) Other business: JL reported that the upstairs office will be available to rent. Potentially host a board meeting in Jay.

9) Next meeting - April 3, 2025– MRBA office

May 1, 2025– MRBA Office

Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm