

MINUTES MARCH 15, 2005
WARREN SELECTBOARD
WARREN TOWN HALL
7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barry Simpson, Chair, Mac Rood, Mike Brodeur, Steve Butcher, Bert Bauchner.

OTHERS PRESENT: Carl Lobel, Todd Chagnon, Ken Blair, Richard Hiscock, Tara Hamilton, Margo Wade, Glen Thomas, Erin Russell-Story.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 2/8/05 & 3/4/05: Motion by Mr. Rood to approve the minutes of 2/8/05, seconded by Mr. Butcher. VOTE: 4-0 (Mr. Bauchner recused as not present). Motion by Mr. Rood to approve the minutes of 3/4/05, seconded by Mr. Butcher. VOTE: 5-0.

RECREATION PATH COMMITTEE: Carl Lobel and Richard Hiscock presented the board suggestions regarding the Recreation Path to present at the Selectboard Summit in April 2005.

N.L. CHAGNON – TODD CHAGNON: - Motion by Mr. Butcher to move into executive session and invite Ken Blair and Cindi Jones, seconded by Mr. Brodeur. VOTE: 5-0. 8:15PM, motion by Mr. Brodeur to move out of executive session, seconded by Mr. Butcher. VOTE: 5-0. Motion by Mr. Butcher to change liquidated damages from \$24,461.22 to \$20,065.06 making total of pay estimate #14 contract #1 from \$56,430.58 to \$60,826.74 if Todd Chagnon will sign change orders #4, 5, and 6 and close out Contract #1, seconded by Mr. Rood. VOTE: 4-0. Mr. Simpson recused from voting. Motion by Mr. Bauchner to authorize Mr. Ken Blair to sign all documents, seconded by Mr. Brodeur. VOTE: 5-0.

TOWN APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Mr. Rood to nominate Mr. Simpson as Chairperson, seconded by Mr. Brodeur. VOTE: 5-0. Motion by Mr. Bauchner to nominate Glen Thomas from the Conservation Committee as Blueberry Lake Dam Monitor, seconded by Mr. Butcher. Letters to be sent out to the previous appointments with changes as follows: appoint Mr. Nick Morehouse as Deputy Emergency Coordinator, Grand Juror as Eric Moffroid one-year term, Auditor for a 2 year term Kathleen Krier, Bert Bauchner as Central VT Economic Development. Rep. and Central VT Revolving Loan Rep, Jim Sanford as MRV Planning District Steering Committee Rep Alternate., Sandra Brodeur as Central Vermont Police Council Representative. Motion by Mr. Rood to accept the current town officers, seconded by Mr. Brodeur. VOTE: 5-0.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Motion by Mr. Simpson to go into executive session, seconded by Mr. Butcher. VOTE: 5-0. Discussions about land real estate options.

Motion by Mr. Rood to come out of executive session, seconded by Mr. Brodeur. VOTE: 5-0. The Conservation Committee would like to meet with the Selectboard on a quarterly basis sometime in June.

BROOKS FIELD LIGHTING: The Selectboard received an estimate from Kevin Collins of \$43,437.60 to fix the lighting on Brooks Field. Motion by Mr. Bauchner to authorize Mr. Rood to contact Kevin Collins to negotiate final cost of repairs/replacement and have Cindi Jones contact the VTLC about bid requirements, seconded by Mr. Butcher, VOTE: 5-0. After Cindi obtains information, authorize Mr. Rood to work with Kevin Collins on replacement phases.

TRACTOR/TRUCK USED/SALE: The current status of the Massey Ferguson to fix it is \$3,500, the town could sell it for \$6,500-\$6,500, and a new 255 tractor would be around \$23,000. At Greenwood's there is a 1996, 283 6700HP used for \$13,000. This tractor new would be around \$34,000. On Truck #9 the body is all rusted out and we can take it to the truck state sale and maybe get \$7,000-\$8,000. Mr. Simpson to meet with Mr. Robinson regarding tractor/truck issues.

OTHER BUSINESS: Rootswork sign permit, finish re-appoints - re: Conservation Committee and Planning Commission. Next meeting is Wednesday, March 23, 2005 – for Personnel

Issue. Next regular Selectboard meeting is Tuesday, March 29, Warren Town Hall, at 7:00PM.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 PM.


Respectfully submitted by Cindi Jones,
Warren Town Administrator



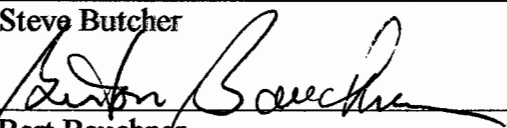
Barry Simpson, Chairperson



Mac Rood



Mike Brodeur

Steve Butcher


Bert Bauchner

Future of the Mad River Path

The genesis of the Mad River Path Association (MRPA), in 1987, began with the construction of the path in Warren that begins at Brooks Field. This path was the first leg of a path to connect the elementary schools of Warren and Waitsfield. In the early 1990s residents of the entire Mad River Valley had a broader vision greatly expanding the original path idea: to create a pedestrian path connecting the towns of Warren, Waitsfield, Fayston and Moretown. The Mad River Path Association was created for the purpose of connecting the communities by building and maintaining this network of trails and paths. The goal of a river-side path from Warren to Moretown was reaffirmed by Valley Vision 2020 when connecting the path from one end of the Valley to the other emerged as one of the highest priorities the community should try to achieve.

The MRPA began as a volunteer organization with very little money but a lot of energy. The results were immediate with the opening of the Greenway in Waitsfield and the adoption of other existing trails that are now maintained by MRPA volunteers. As the years passed and the work of building new paths became more complex – burdened by the time consuming permitting process – the MRPA board saw the need to hire a part-time executive director to shepherd us through this process. With the executive director came the inevitable increase in administrative overhead – rent, phones, website, computers, office supplies, newsletter, postage, and advertising. And, there was no let-up in the always demanding and time consuming job of fund raising. But, the most stubborn obstacle to the job of path building remains: securing landowner permission for permanent easements along the river corridor.

The MRPA cannot achieve this mission alone. From the outset we were fortunate to have the support of the community and the Selectboard of the towns of Warren, Waitsfield and Fayston. When we came to you for help, we always found this board supportive in every way including financial aid. Now more than ever, the goal of establishing a permanent trail network connecting our communities requires the unqualified assistance and cooperation of the towns.

At the Selectboard Summit next month we hope that you, the Warren Selectboard, will acknowledge and affirm:

- That the work of the MRPA in establishing and maintaining an inter-town trail network is in the interest of the towns and a benefit to the Valley for a number of reasons including contributing significantly to residents' quality of life and our appeal as a tourist destination.
- That the MRPA is carrying out path building to meet the needs and objectives of the three towns.
- That future path building and trail maintenance is a top priority in all three towns as expressed by the community in the Valley Vision 2020 meeting and consistent with the goals and objectives of local Town Plans.
- A commitment to contribute to sufficient funding and establish a clear and unencumbered process for town support of MRPA, including organizational support for an executive director.
- The need to establish a realistic projection of the cost of and time-table for completing our ultimate goal – a path from Warren to Moretown.

The recent funding shortfalls threaten progress on achieving what is a widely recognized goal – more recreational trails in the Mad River Valley. The MRPA looks forward to forging a lasting partnership with the towns to accomplish our joint mission. To do our part in furtherance of these goals, the MRPA board will develop a budget that takes into account a realistic assessment of our financial resources.

We thank you for your^r past support and hope that you will agree to champion our cause at the upcoming Selectboard summit.

SUBMITTED BY THE MRPA 3/14/05