

East Montpelier Trails Inc Minutes 2-10-04

Present: Jamie, Nona, Carroll, Laura, Rick, Jody, Mary (minutes), Eric Scharnberg

Jody Brown submitted a letter of resignation from the board and it was regrettably accepted. Many thanks to Jody for her work on the trails, especially in the early days.

Unanimous vote for Rick Hopkins to join the Trail board. Welcome to Rick.

Brazier Pratt: Nona reported that fundraising is going slowly. The approximately 75,000 raised falls far short of the 500,000 needed. Andi is making an application to the Freeman Foundation in the name of the EMTB and the Land Trust is supportive of the project so work will continue. A grant application to State Trails and Greenways has also been submitted. All monies raised from private sources will roll over to the Brazier project if the Pratt funding is not complete by the closing date of May of 2004.

Cross Vermont: Eric reported that he has secured funding for his position as director to continue. He has gotten support and funding from the state for upgrading the section of old RT 2 from the bridge abutments to? DeWolfe Engineering is lined up to do this work as well as YCC. Funding includes making a part of the trail compatible with ADA with wheelchair fishing access, but does not include permitting. Little River design (Stowe bike path) is interested in working on the project.

Madeline met with Steve Terry of GMP, who supports getting the easement of the Montpelier section of the railbed. XVT and Montpelier Rec. Board would hold the easement. We are still waiting to hear of progress on the easement for East Montpelier section of the railbed. Madeline and Darby are planning to meet with Winooski Hydro?

Eric is anxious to secure easements from landowners or at least get letters of intent for a grant deadline next month. Mary will call to set up a meeting with the Swenson's, who own a stretch of the railbed from RT 14 north. (Note: Eric and Mary met with Deedee Swenson on Friday Feb 20. Eric will follow up on meeting directly with Deedee.)

Fitch: Martha Fitch would like to have a written proposal from the trail board for the purchase/development of a trail head on the County Rd property she co-owns with her family. **Rick volunteered to get maps of the property from the town and to work with Nona and Mary on this project. Maybe Sandy could give some input also?**

Annual Meeting officially warned for next meeting on **Tues March 16**. We will elect officers so hopefully we will have a quorum. Please notify by email if you are planning to come or if you know you cannot make it.

Meeting ended with great fun and excitement extracting cars from snow banks! We should really get out more....