EMTI Minutes 1-18-05

Present: Jamie, Nona, Sandy, Carroll, Kevin, Mary, Eric at 8:15

Minutes of 11-30-04 approved No treasurers report this month.

<u>Kevin McAllister</u> was invited to join the trail board with a unanimous vote. Welcome, Kevin, we're happy to have you with us and appreciate the work you have already done! See below...

Mallory Brook: Kevin completed the Forests and Parks Trail grant application requesting approximately \$16,000 (with approx \$6000 in-kind donations) for the development of new trails and bridge construction on the newly conserved Pratt property. Many thanks to Kevin and Nona for the long hours spent preparing this application. Nona will meet with Chris Pratt on Friday to work on the location of the trail easement. Discussion centered on whether Chris might give permission for the VAST trail to follow the walking trail along the south/east side of the brook to meet Dodge Road east of (Bennett) Brook.

Kevin will get the original grant application to Mary for the records.

<u>Chris Abrams</u> emailed her intention to take an extended leave from the board last month (I seem to have deleted this email-does anyone have it still?). The board voted to appropriate funds to purchase a book from Nona and a whistle from Mary to give to her in thanks for many years of service on the board-especially for hosting the meetings for so many years. We will miss her and hope that she will return at some point.

<u>CVT</u>: Eric caught us up with his progress on planning the Old Rt 2 section of the trail. We have a major safety concern with the trail where it follows the shoulder of the highway. Eric assured us that there would be caution signs placed along both sides of the road warning vehicles of <u>Pedestrians in Roadway</u>. CVT will also place signs on the trail advising: <u>walk your bike</u>, and <u>single file</u>. Eric also has 4 weeks of YCC and GMC crews lined up for work this summer, as part of his grant application for the Forests and Parks Rec Trail Grants. Good work, Eric.

Status of Draft of trail easement with Winooski Hydro: Lawyer and E Montpelier resident Rob Halpert reviewed the section on indemnity we were concerned about and assured us that there was "no problem." Eric asked whether that meant that the document draft as a whole is acceptable to us. I believe that the answer to that is yes, unless anyone has any other concerns. If you have not had a chance to review it and would like to, I have a copy in the EMTI records. I'm sure that Eric can email a copy as well. The document will not become legal and binding document for a period of approximately 5 years.

Nona or Mary will call Martha Fitch to see where things stand with the County Rd trail parking.

<u>New Business:</u> Nona would like to be reviewing our new brochure and trail maps at this time next year!

Warning for Election of Officers at the Feb meeting-think about what you'd like to do next year...

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 22 7-9 pm at Mary's