

## MRV Rec Hub Project Team Meeting

### Minutes

4/26/22, 12:30 p.m., Zoom

#### Present:

Laura Arnesen (MRVRD)  
Eric Friedman (MRV Chamber of Commerce)  
Joshua Schwartz & Amy Tomasso (MRVPD)  
Ross Saxton (Mad River Path)  
Bob Kogut (Mad River Riders)  
Annie Decker-Dell'Isola (Town of Waitsfield)  
Chris Stephenson (MRV Backcountry Coalition)

1 Budget spreadsheet - too soon to know what the actual gap in funding might be; bridge numbers will take a few months (professional surveys needed first, bridge items are fairly close unless something was forgotten); Corrie will add her numbers when she is back from vacation; Path numbers from Kingsbury came in lower than expected; parking lot design from November 2021 may not be OK now because of flood plain concerns, permitting work to be done, will probably be more expensive; Eric hopes we can give John M. some design assistance to improve the stairs that go to the two levels of parking behind the building.

#### 2 Filling the funding gap:

- Grant spreadsheet - Ross has started filling it in, others should do the same.
- Major donors? Ross said there are some anonymous donors by organization that can be approached. Laura noted any major doors should be approached before the camping goes public (as you would do in a traditional Capital Campaign).
- Community fundraising if needed, but who would manage this? We decided to wait until we have a more accurate number on the amount needed to raise. Laura reminded others that MRVRD is funded by the three towns and recently got a 10K per town increase. Bob mentioned that seeing where the biggest gaps are might help us determine who should lead fundraising. We decided to mention the possibility of a gap in funding but not be specific yet. Laura to adjust the language in the one pager MRV Rec Hub April 2022 Update. It is now a two pager (attendees agreed this was fine due to the complexity of the project).

3 Update from Laura on possible up front funding: she has started research with Northfield Savings Bank (seemed a bit expensive) and will talk to the Vermont Community Foundation later today. It is unknown how many separate checks might be written to various vendors. The Path and Chamber reported they can cover their expenditures and wait for reimbursement. Riders will likely have one \$133,000 invoice for the bridge and needs help with upfront money. Bob was asked by a VOREC committee member what was needed most and he mentioned help with cash flow. We await the VOREC details on reimbursements and timing.

#### 4 May 11 Planning:

Laura asked partners to look over the draft Press Release (hoping it will run in the May 5 Valley Reporter) and a shorter version on FPF closer to May 11. She also asked to get questions in advance from partners' Board members and/or friends to help us plan.

Our next meeting on May 10 will be dedicated to specific planning for the May 11 hybrid public session. Joshua said he'd like to see us starting with the big picture - why this location, view of connecting downtown to the Hub etc.; Ross volunteered to use Arc map (software platform) to project new designs for various elements of the Hub. He will spearhead the visuals and email us a draft early next week. Keeping this part of the presentation to 20 minutes seems desirable so we have plenty of time left for a Q & A.

4 We plan on calling or emailing landowners (abutters) ahead of public announcements about May 11 public meeting. Spreadsheet entitled "Recreation Hub and Downtown Trail Neighboring Landowners" now has a name (mostly Bob and Ross) for updating and letting them know about the May 11 meeting. Laura will contact Conservation Chairs and other specific groups ahead of the public announcement.

5 VOREC Project Management Plan - Liza drafted this as a start to making all partners aware of their responsibilities and perhaps lead to an MOU. We did not have time to discuss it, but partners should review it before our next meeting and suggest edits.