

**Mad River Valley Planning District
Director's Report
April 2008**

Mad River Valley Path Association –

Attended the March Board meeting – The Board appears to be moving forward in a positive way. We had a Landowners Committee meeting and walked the proposed Path from the Skatium to the Big Picture, a connection that will be a great asset. We discovered the Town working at the beaver pond. There will be an application to the Rec District for funds for this section. It is hoped that the portion from the pizza place to Carroll Road will be staymat and plowable. The 5th grade at Waitsfield Elementary will be doing a Path related project which could be a Path membership drive.

I also attended a joint meeting of some Path folks and Open Hearth regarding their project for wetlands interpretive work and trails behind the Big Picture.

Housing –

I attended my last meetings as a member of the Central Vermont Community Land Trust Board of Trustees and Projects Committee, and the regional Housing Collaborative. CVCLT is having a VERY important Housing meeting May 1 at Harwood from 5:30-8, meal provided. This is co-sponsored by the MRV Housing Coalition. It is very important that we get a good attendance from Fayston, Waitsfield, Warren, Moretown, Duxbury and Waterbury. From that meeting delegates will be chosen to attend the regional housing summit May 17 in Montpelier.

Mad River Byways Welcome Center –

I have submitted a grant for the purchase of the Top Gas property and the adjoining 50 acres and rebuilding of the existing gas canopy into a nicer Welcome Center, total \$118,895. The presentation was made to the Scenery Preservation Council on April 3. They made some suggested amendments, which were completed and submitted. The only missing piece is the agreement with the landowner, which I am still working on. Hopefully I can get that before the grant would need to be sent on to the Federal Program on May 9.

Valley Futures Network –

The Steering Group continues to meet monthly. Various work groups are also meeting. The Valley Moves group has been working with Troy Kingsbury and Mad Bikes are available at the VG. Additional sites and bikes will be forthcoming soon. We are also working towards an invitation list for 40 additional participants in two one night retreats at Knoll Farm the week of June 15. (www.valleyfuturesnetwork.net)

Kingsbury Community Farm –

The Steering Committee meets bi-weekly – the RFP will be available shortly and two open houses for prospective purchasers will be in early May.

Transition –

I will be working with Jane April 21-22-23. Am putting together lists and notes and hints for her to make the transition as easy as possible.