

**Mad River Valley Planning District
Director's Report
June 2009**

Mad River Valley Path Association

- MRPA's 5/19 meeting resulted in the election of the following officers: Laura Brines, President, Rocky Bleier, Vice-President, Betsy Jondro, Secretary, and Bobbi Rood, Treasurer.
- Joshua met with members of the MRPA Strategic Planning committee and discussed trail easement options.
- New trailhead signs have been erected throughout the trail network.
- MRPA Board (and Jim Sanford) recently walked future sections of the Path and discussed alignment options.
- MRPA's recently launched interactive website (<http://www.madriverpath.com/> - "Maps") includes a video interview with Elwin Neil, Jr. talking about dogs on the Path.
- The next MRPA Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 7/21 at 6 PM.

Mad River Byway

- Final draft versions of panels for all kiosks and interpretive signs will be completed by 6/19. Draft versions are intended to be placed on the Waitsfield kiosk within the month.
- Steve Gladczuk at CVRPC is developing ownership agreement packets for approval by town Selectboards.
- The next Byway meeting is scheduled for 6/19 at 9 am.

Valley Futures Network

- Joshua is working with local members to strategize potential projects for Chip Sawyer's Fall UVM Service Learning Class.

Housing

- Joshua attended the 6/9 meeting of the MRVHC, which focused on the accessory apartment and land bank projects. The accessory apartment brochure is nearing completion.

Transportation

- The Mad Bikes Committee has been appointed as liaison between the Town of Waitsfield and VTrans for the Rt. 100 repaving project ('11). Joshua is working to schedule a meeting between the VTrans Project Manager, CVRPC, and liaisons from Warren and Waitsfield.
- MRPA, the Health Center, Waitsfield School, the Town of Waitsfield, and other interested parties participated in a discussion regarding the Waitsfield Sidewalk project. The plan was presented and opportunities for collaboration were discussed.

Data

- An outline of questions and objectives has been set. Staff has been working with the Data Intern and the Center for Rural Studies to fulfill the outline.
- The Sugarbush annual data report will be provided by the end of the month and presented to the Steering Committee at its July meeting.

Rural Resource Commission

- Met with the Rural Resource Commission on 6/11 and discussed future grant projects in Warren, Mad River Byway historical panels, Mad River Glen single chair designation, finalizing the Warren Town Hall project, and the Warren Dam.

Recreation

- Joshua attended a 5/26 public meeting of the Vermont Mountain Biking Association's proposal for a "ride center." The project is centered in Stowe/Waterbury, but has the potential of connecting to the Mad River Valley.

Forests Wildlife Communities Project Steering Committee

- MRVPD will be assisting VNRC in applying for a grant to fund aspects of the project.
- Meetings are currently being scheduled with each town's CC, PC, and DRB to present the findings of the Arrowwood Studies and provide education on the Valley's wildlife habitat.

Municipal Support

- The Valley's consortium Municipal Education Grant funded trainings are underway. So far trainings have been held in Waitsfield (Water Quality Issues through Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Process) and Fayston (DRB Review Process). The final training will be held in Warren on 6/25 and includes a Q & A with land use attorney Steve Stitzel.
- Joshua met with Deborah Kahn of the Warren Library to discuss the library's long-range planning efforts.
- MRV ZAs had their second brown bag lunch on 5/20 and discussed local planning issues as well as local permit databases.