



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

DELAWARE & HUDSON RAIL TRAIL COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024, 6:00 PM

MEETING DETAILS

Virtual: Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 247 529 380 630

Passcode: r57FLZ

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Or call in (audio only) [+1 802-440-1368,,893509525#](tel:+18024401368893509525)

In-Person: The Opera House, 3rd Floor, 67 Merchants Row, Rutland, VT 05701

ATTENDANCE

(X = in person) (V = virtual attendance)

MUNICIPALITY/ORG	REPRESENTATIVE	
Castleton	Matt Brown	X
Poultney Village	-	
Poultney Town	Philip Wattenbarger	X
Granville Village	Dwayne Daigle	
Granville Town	-	
Pawlet	Frank Nelson	X
Rupert	John LaVecchia	V
Salem	-	
Poultney Area Chamber of Commerce	-	
Lakes Region Area Chamber of Commerce	Greg	V
Granville Area Chamber of Commerce	-	
Chamber of Economic Development of the Rutland Region	-	
Slate Valley Trails (Ex-Officio)	Dylan Daigle	V
Vermont Association of Snow Travelers	-	

Guests: Tom Sexton (Rail-to-Trails Conservancy)

Staff: Jim Henderson (BCRC), Nic Stark (RRPC), Jackie Cassino (VTRANS)



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MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Nic Stark called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Introductions were made, and new Council Members John LaVecchia (Rupert) and Matt Brown (Castleton) were welcomed.

2. OPEN TO PUBLIC

No public Comments

3. UPDATES FROM STATE, MUNICIPAL, AND CHAMBER MEMBERS

Castleton: None

Pawlet: Work continues determining use of remaining funds in Pawlet/Rupert VOREC grant funds.

Rupert: Requested best way to report blowdowns – Send photos and explain locations in email to Jackie Cassino Jackie.Cassino@vermont.gov Rupert Selectboard voted down offer for new amenities from VOREC grant funds, still interested in parking lot development on Cross Road. Selectboard requests signage on the rail trail at division of Hudson River and Lake Champlain watersheds on Route 153.

VTrans: Plug for Vermont Walk/Bike Summit June 20th in St. Johnsbury. Management Plan RFP is out and consultant selection expected by end of month. 9-12 month process expected for completion of Management Plan.

Poultney: Representative Philip Wattenbarger met with members of Selectboard and Community Development Director Sarah Pelkey. Voiced concerns about lack of platform for getting the word out on news in relation to the Council. Raised issues of open gates on Rail Trail in Poultney has led to misuse by motorized vehicles. Jackie relayed that gates in Poultney will be closed in the coming days.

4. BYLAW REVISIONS TO ADDRESS QUORUM

There was unanimous agreement to lower the number of members present at a meeting to meet quorum from five to three. The next meeting will begin with formally adopting the bylaws then appointing Officers of the Council.

5. HONOREE FLEMING MEMORIAL

Concerns were raised about the wording, prominence, placement, and impact of the memorial along the rail trail. Jackie to keep the council apprised of development of options proposed.

6. GREEN UP DAY CHECK-IN

No new areas of concern.

7. PROPOSAL TO MAKE MISSING LINK A STANDING AGENDA ITEM

Nic made proposal and gave a brief update on efforts underway by himself, Jackie and Dwayne to get to the ground truth of what had transpired and what efforts are ongoing to connect the Granville and



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Poultney sections of the Rail Trail. Frank inquired as to whether the letters of support for the new grant in the Village of Granville were sent. Nic informed the council that letters of support signed both by Jackie at VTrans and Devon Neary at the Rutland Regional Planning Commission were sent.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Nic will be compiling a preliminary list of businesses that could apply for the Trail-Friendly Business Program for review by the Council.

9. ADJOURNED

Respectively submitted by Nic Stark