

RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

DELAWARE & HUDSON RAIL TRAIL COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025, 6:00 PM

ATTENDANCE (**X** = in person, **V** = virtual attendance)

| MUNICIPALITY/ORG | REPRESENTATIVE | |
|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Castleton | Matt Brown - Chairperson | |
| Poultney Village | - | |
| Poultney Town | Philip Wattenbarger | |
| Granville Village | Dwayne Daigle | Х |
| Granville Town | - | |
| Pawlet | Frank Nelson - Vice Chairperson | X |
| Rupert | John La Vecchia | V |
| Salem | - | |
| Poultney Area Chamber of Commerce | - | |
| Lakes Region Area Chamber of Commerce | Greg Parke | |
| Granville Area Chamber of Commerce | - | |
| Chamber of Economic Development of the Rutland Region | Olivia Bucksbaum | |
| Slate Valley Trails (Ex-Officio) | Dylan Daigle | V |
| Vermont Association of Snow Travelers | - | |
| Bennington County Regional Planning Commission | Jim Henderson | V |
| Rutland Regional Planning Commission | Nic Stark - Secretary | Х |
| Rutland Regional Planning Commission | Ethan Pepin | |

Staff:

Virtual Guests:

Public: Elain Daigle, Bill McIntyre, Annora McGarry

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS
 Frank Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Dwayne Daigle makes a motion to accept the draft minutes, Jim Henderson seconds, ayes have it.

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3. Ginger Nickerson from the VT Urban & Community Forestry Program (UVM Extension) gave a presentation on the invasive Tree-of-Heaven. Jackie will be installing posters on trailheads to give users information on how to identify and report Tree-of-Heaven.

4. UPDATES FROM STATE, MUNICIPAL, AND CHAMBER MEMBERS

Castleton, Poultney, Slate Valley Trails: N/A

Granville:

Pawlet: Still seeing healthy usage. Nic Stark, Jim Henderson, and Jess Van Oort to meet next week to work on VOREC grant.

Rupert: Jim Henderson reports they've ordered 8 picnic tables in varying sizes and ADA accessible options for the Ruper Town Green. Jim is looking for benches that match existing ones in town. VTrans: Culvert inventories are underway, expected to be finished by end of summer. Later in the summer some treatments to reduce vegetation in the center strip. Permanent trail counters are going to be installed next week.

5. TRAIL MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Trail Management Plan Public Input Session has been confirmed for 7/17 at VSU – Castleton, will be hybrid. Promotion in newspapers and online planned. Pop-ups in Castleton and Poultney will be rescheduled. Jackie shared that trail user surveys which will inform the trail management plan will be available online starting in mid/late June into August.

6. MUNICIPAL BOARD REPORTING

Just waiting on Poultney and Castleton reps.

7. MISSING LINK UPDATE

Nic shared insights from his conversations with stakeholders in Granville. Stakeholders will meet in a separate meeting to discuss next steps.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Nic shared info on the final draft of the 2026 Rutland Regional Plan.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None

10. ADJOURNED

Dwayne Daigle made a motion to adjourn, John La Vecchia seconded, and the ayes have it.

Respectively submitted by Nic Stark