



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

DELAWARE & HUDSON RAIL TRAIL COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025, 6:00 PM

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

MUNICIPALITY/ORG	REPRESENTATIVE	
Castleton	Matt Brown - Chairperson	V
Poultney Village	-	
Poultney Town	Philip Wattenbarger	V
Granville Village	Dwayne Daigle	
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	
Vermont Association of Snow Travelers	-	
Bennington County Regional Planning Commission	Jim Henderson	
Rutland Regional Planning Commission	Nic Stark - Secretary	X
Rutland Regional Planning Commission	Ethan Pepin	

Staff:

Virtual Guests:

Public:

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Matt Brown called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Frank Nelson makes a motion to accept the draft minutes, John La Vecchia seconds, ayes have it.

3. UPDATES FROM STATE, MUNICIPAL, AND CHAMBER MEMBERS

Castleton: No issues observed.

Poultney: Nothing new.

Slate Valley Trails: N/A

Granville: N/A



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Pawlet: Lots of use observed, dog walkers, horseback riders. Maintenance gates have been left open and 4-wheelers have been seen using the trail.

Rupert: Good trail usage with various user types represented. New furniture at town green from VOREC project.

State (as reported by Nic Stark): The kiosks and new signage will be going in September-August in Pawlet and Castleton. Survey responses healthy for DHRT, looking to make a final push for responses before it closes.

RRPC: Nic Stark continues to work on getting the amenities for the W. Pawlet and Rupert sites through the VOREC grant.

4. TRAIL MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

The council discussed the Public Input Meeting. Council members are asked to contact Nic Stark if they have events in their area coming up where a table could be set up to seek input from the public. Expecting the consultants to return to the Council in the fall to report back on next steps for the Plan.

5. MISSING LINK UPDATE

The Council discussed the next potential steps and the need for an economic impact assessment that takes into account the variance in impact depending on trail length.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

The Council discussed changing the mechanism by which Council meetings are called to an as-needed basis. Nic Stark will draft what that process might look like. Frank Nelson made a motion to discuss at a Council meeting in October, skipping the regularly scheduled September meeting.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None

8. ADJOURNED

Frank Nelson made a motion to adjourn, Philip Wattenbarger seconded, and the ayes have it.

Respectively submitted by Nic Stark