

Draft Minutes: Johnson Rail Trail Advisory Meeting
Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
Upstairs at Municipal Building & Zoom Access

Present: Committee members Allie Krazat, Peggy Williams, Jan Gearhart, Casey Romero, Doug Molde, Adrienne Stevson (Zoom), and BJ Putvain (Zoom at approximately 6:00).

Others: Selectboard representative Shayne Spence, Lynda Hill

Not Present: Committee members Kyle Nuse, Yva Rose, and Joie Lehouillier.

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

1. Call to Order

Allie called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

2. Draft Minutes of May 5 & May 17

Casey requested editing the May 5 Minutes' description of committee objective, changing "equally beneficial to LVRT users versus community members" to "equally beneficial to LVRT users and community members". Doug Molde moved to accept this change and approve all prior Minutes. Motion seconded and approved later in the meeting when BJ was present.

3. Update From Shayne Spence

Re: Open Meeting Law research, he said that Committees needed to comply just like elected bodies.
Re: the final edit of Selectboard's Statement of Purpose for our Committee, he will get it to us.

He described highlights of the recent Economic Roundtable meeting, citing some recreation grants and support available from the Lamoille County Planning Commission. Specifically, a VTrans "Better Connections" grant could support establishing a bike/ped lane on Railroad St. The state VOREC grant could be useful.

4. Update, Official Rail Trail Opening

No official updates. Doug said info from VTrans has no firm dates. He will contact Rob Moore of the Planning Commission and share info by email.

5. Continued Discussion of Needs & Priorities

We continued work on items written on the whiteboard at the 5/17 meeting, although some were erased. Topics were Existing Assets, Tasks, and Wants. Photos of the whiteboard before and after today's discussion are available. Consensus and follow up tasks are:

- We should present ideas at upcoming Selectboard and Trustee meetings ASAP. Allie will contact Yva re: research about the importance of access to off-trail resources, downtown businesses and other assets.
- Peggy will contact NVU re: using McClelland building for a hostel or other visitor accommodations.
- We may designate sub-committees or task groups for priority topics like accommodations (Peggy & others), signage (Adrienne & others), improved access and other road improvements (Doug, Shayne & others).

6. Additional Agenda Items

The topic of organizing and keeping information (public and working committee documents) will be on the next agenda.

The topic of aligning agendas and minutes with municipal formats, processes and timelines was part of general discussion. Allie, as a Chair who is new to municipal work, is using information and examples as other members provide them. Doug will to approach the Selectboard (as an individual) to request a paid minute-taker.

7. Next Meeting Date

Thursday June 15 at 5 p.m. was suggested; Allie will follow up.

8. Adjourn

Casey moved to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Seconded by Jan and approved.

Draft Minutes taken by Casey Romero

