

Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic Committee Minutes
Thursday, June 19th, 2025 6:30 PM –UMATR Office

Attendees: John Little, Wendy Scott, Cynthia Scott, Susan Staples, Dan Seeley, Bryan Dickinson, Lindsey Wight, Sarah Lunn, Ruby Bratcher

Meeting called to order: 6:33 PM

Review of May meeting minutes. BD motioned to accept the minutes. SS seconded. Motion passed.

Any business from the April minutes (not on agenda): None

Administrative business: : Exploring keeping Ruby on as contract employee after her DEC term ends Aug 8. Add UMATR tasks to position description.

Vests being ordered - last chance to request one (sorry folks who have been waiting for this order to go out for 8 months!)

Grants/Projects:

- Jay Land project update - grant executed; awaiting purchase and sales agreement from seller.
- Final Report from Village of Enosburg Falls - benches and picnic tables by dam.
- Brownway Trail - conflicting user concerns
- The Celebration film - (June 21) up at the Clips and Reels Theater at Jay Peak.
- Tubing on the trout- June 24: filling up fast
- Paddle Lessons - next Saturday (June 28).
- Brault's event: paddle element planning. Other details.
- River Explorers: trip is full, several kids on the waitlist. Request donations from families.
- Paddle Pedal: rail trail resurfacing. July 12 Richford town-wide festival; nice partnership.
- New access steps in East Berkshire (need land owner permission). Also: discussion of access points maintenance and etc. Have a site steward adopt a site program for access points, have a volunteer day for access point maintenance. Can LW provide an estimate of how many staff hours are involved in this work, and a description of the tasks. Perhaps students could be engaged to scrape the silt at the end of the school year (often there are students who need to hit their community service targets).

Management Plan review/update Scenic and Recreational review for each town. Lively and helpful conversation about the Scenic and Rec goals, and what we have achieved or could update in the Management Plan. Next up - the same activity for Natural Resources.

2025 Upcoming UMATR Events –June 21: The Celebration film premiere; **June 24:** Tubing on the Trout; **June 28:** Paddle Lessons; **July 9:** Guided Nature Paddle with BOTH County Foresters; **July 12:** Paddle-Pedal; **July 26:** BBQ at Brault's; **Aug 3:** Paddle & Picnic; **Aug 5:** Scenic Missisquoi River Paddle (with MRBA and VLT); **Sept 6:** Swimming Hole Clean-Up; **Oct 18:** WSFF

Other/Public Comment: concerns about our funding: mention this and request donations at each event and activity.

Upcoming meetings:

July 17 in person - Jay Land w/ Westfield Community Center as backup
August 21: in person - UMATR Office

Wrap up and adjourn: JL motioned to adjourn, DS seconded, motion passed. Meeting adjourned 8:05pm