

**Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic Committee Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 16th, 2025 6:30 PM – Zoom**

**Attendees:** John Little, Jacques Couture, Bryan Dickinson, Dan Seeley, Wendy Scott, Cynthia Scott, Janet Lee (JAL), Susan Staples, Russ Ford, Lindsey Wight, Sarah Lunn, Ruby Bratcher, Karina Dailey, Debbie Girouard, Ben Applegate, Beth + Guy Dickson, Clare Wangard, Kat, Roland Berube, Sara Lovitz, Paula Schramm.

**Speaker series:** Dam Removal - Karina Dailey, Restoration Ecologist with the Vermont Natural Resources Council, kicked off our Online Seminar Series for 2025. In her role, Karina is responsible for running VNRC's dam removal program and contributing her scientific knowledge and expertise to policy issues around the conservation and restoration of Vermont's waters. Her presentation was very well received and Karina fielded many questions after her presentation. She shared information about the Vermont Dam Task Force and the great resource provided by [freevermontrivers.org](http://freevermontrivers.org). Vermont has more dams per capita than any other state, but 72 decrepit dams have been removed so far. It was great to welcome several viewers who are not committee members. The recording of Karina's presentation is available on our youtube page, which you can [access through our website](#), if you would like to see or share it.

**Meeting called to order:** 7:15 PM - JC motioned to call to order

**Review of November meeting minutes and December potluck.** JAL motioned to accept the minutes. DS seconded. Motion passed.

**Updates on business from these minutes/notes:** None this month.

**Administrative business:** 2024 activities summaries were submitted to each town: watch for them in your Town Reports!

2024 By The Numbers - Lindsey shared a year-end accounting of 2024. Reach out to her if you have more questions.

Lindsey Review – Discussion about how to proceed with this year's annual review of Lindsey's performance. It was decided that Lindsey will share the survey used last year for committee members to fill out. Next the executive committee (JC, WS, JAL, SS) will review the findings and summarize and present to Lindsey.

**Grants/Projects:** Jay Community Land update: the plan to purchase land in the town of Jay hit a roadblock because of deed restrictions, but MRBA was able to work with the funder and the Town, and an alternative plan will go forward. North Troy revitalization effort: Ellen Fox reported that there have been several community dinners in North Troy that have attracted many people. There is an effort to build a trail connecting the village and these events have helped to re-vitalize the community.

Newsletter – the newsletter has been mailed out and also sent by email. It looks fantastic! Potentially send some to school librarians.

**2025 Events:** Online Speaker Series (Jan-Mar meeting openers); Feb 22: Franklin County Snowshoe 10am-12pm in Montgomery; Mar 8: Orleans County Snowshoe 10am-12pm - location tbd; April/May: Salamander Night Patrols? May 18: Annual Open House; May 31?: The Celebration film premiere; June 24? Tubing on the Trout; June 28: Paddle Lessons; July? Guided Nature Paddle; July 12: Paddle-Pedal; July 19: BBQ at Brault's; Aug 3: Paddle & Picnic; Sept 6: Swimming Hole Clean-Up; Oct 11? WSFF -

the year's events will soon be up on our website; be sure to secure your spot!

**Other/Public Comment:** Janet has a few questions about the BBQ. Discussion will continue in future meetings.

**Upcoming meetings:** February 20th via zoom - Timber Rattlesnakes with Dr.Luke Groff!

**Wrap up and adjourn.** JAL motioned to adjourn, SS seconded, motion passed. Meeting adjourned 7:59.