



MAD RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT

Fayston • Waitsfield • Warren

Mad River Valley For Local Opportunities (FLO) Committee

Minutes

October 31, 2018, 2:00 pm EDT
Waitsfield Town Office

FLO Attendees:

Jared Cadwell; Bob Ackland; Peter MacLaren; Don Simonini; Jasmine Bigelow; Daryl Forrest

Guests: Michael Levine; Lisa Loomis; Ned Farquhar; Mac Rood

Jared called the meeting to order at 2:03PM. Minutes were accepted by unanimous vote.

Bob presented the main points of the FLO work in the last 6 months. Jared asked Bob to present the main points of the Case Statement to the group.

Bob spoke of the objective of FLO is to drive grant awards to areas in the Community where the needs are greatest and can be measured.

Lisa spoke about our grass roots plan. She is concerned we may not have allowed ourselves enough time to gain momentum into the Town meetings in March to secure a majority vote.

Ned expressed concerned about workforce housing is not affordable if available at all.

There was discussion about the makeup of the Commission: elected-appointed-should they be a SB member from each Town. In our discussion after the guests left, we agreed to put the question of whether the town appointed commissioners should be Select Board members, or any resident of the specific town appointed by the Select Board, should be discussed with the joint Select Boards on November 13th.

Some discussion about the 7th member being from the MRVPD.

A lot of discussion centered around wastewater and needs thereof. Without waster solutions on a grander scale many of the housing initiatives will fall short. Talked about a “big” pipe vs. Wastewater “pods”.

Mac asked for more specifics on \$ per bucket. Bob explained that the Commissioners can “move money around” to reflect support of grants that meet the overall objectives of The FLO.

Jasmine spoke to what a 5% increase in visitors will mean for the Valley: 300 people more per day and \$8,500,000 of additional revenue for the Valley. All directed to the periods from June to October targeted toward mid weeks visitors and events.

Mac felt it will bolster real estate values over time.

Mike offered to start thinking about our “outreach” plan\timing.

Talked about using Part-time residents vs. vacation or some other description on non-voting residents.

Reviewed some misc. details in the Case Statement. We agreed to place the Charter and by-laws on the MRVPD web site for public viewing.

We will hand out copies of the case statement at the presentation [after the presentation is complete!] to The Chamber and MRVPD Boards on Wednesday November 7th.

Jared said: “let’s go with the document as written. We can correct and modify content as we listen and learn from our constituencies.

We agreed we would meet at 1PM on Wednesday 7th, after the meeting with the PD and CC, with an agenda focused on the roll-out plan.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:15PM

Submitted by Don Simonini