

Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic Committee Minutes
Thursday, June 17, 2021 – Jacques and Pauline Couture's

Attendees: Jacques and Pauline Couture, Carol Hickey, John Little, Mike Manahan, Cynthia Scott, Wendy Scott, Keith Sampietro, Ari Lattanzi, and Lindsey Wight; Jim MacCartney joined via zoom.

Thanks to Jacques and Pauline for hosting; thanks to everyone for the delicious dishes! What a wonderful way to begin a meeting and celebrate being able to be together again.

Review of the May minutes: CS motioned to accept the minutes; JL seconded; minutes were approved as written.

Solstice prep and planning: Thank you to the folks who have signed up to man an info table during this event. There are still slots available! Lindsey, Ari, and Ellen will be at each of our three sites, as well. Stations will include three different guided activities, as well as DIY activities (river clay, painting rocks, color pages, lawn games). Info tables will have the maps and checklist to help direct people throughout our region.

Other projects/events:

- Paddle lessons – July 10, 9-12. Target locals; hire assistant (Richford MRBA applicant? Offer \$50).
- Clean-Up on July 11; East Berkshire towards Enosburg (Boston Post Road?).
- Summer Days on the River youth paddle day trips. July 14, 20, 22, August 13 – will provide bagged lunches.
- Paddle and Picnic July 31: Richford to East Berkshire. Jay Peak shuttle.
- River Explorers trip August 2-6.
- Paddle Pedal August 7 – need volunteers!
- Montgomery Clean-Up September 12.

North Troy Farm and Forest: Land along river frontage (including Big Falls) is for sale – working on conservation possibilities. Need to do a conservation appraisal – VHCB can do, but would need some match dollars (prefer fed?). The Committee is pro using some of our dollars as needed in pursuit of this effort – Lindsey will investigate our budget for how much is available.

Troy - Covered Bridge: The town would appreciate assistance in polling/surveying the desires of the town – use info/data to be sure that they have their facts right – estimated dollars, estimated timeline, etc. Also road limits. How much above the cost of a covered bridge they'd be willing to pay (i.e. 20%, 50%, etc.)?

Other/Public Comment: Keith has connected with a veterans group and will be taking up to 12 vets on an overnight July 17/18. Would UMATR be interested in sponsoring the food costs? CH motions, JL seconds; all in favor. Suggestion to make sure that John from Enosburgh knows about this event – L will connect with him. Also, REI will be offering their staff an opportunity to come up for a river trip on August 17th and August 25th.

Upcoming Meetings: July 15 at John Littles? August in Orleans County? September at Berkshire Town Hall.

Wrap up and Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm; Committee members were invited to join us for a tour of the Mill Brook bank stabilization project.