

**Mad River Byway Committee Meeting  
March 22, 2007, Moretown Elementary School**

**Attending:** Don Wexler, Criag Eilers, Stephanie Venema, Kate O'Neill, Denise Gabaree, Ellie Hilferty, Randy George, Jack Byrne, Chloe Wexler

Stephanie shared a letter from Green Mountain Power expressing their intent to enter into a mutually acceptable agreement for ownership and use of the Taplin Schoolhouse.

Jack reported that Barry Goodman is not able to attend tonight and would like to keep working on how to involve Middlesex residents in the byway celebration and other efforts. He will contact Sarah Siedman of Middlesex who might also be interested in participating. Clark Amadon also could not attend but is still on board and Duane Pierson emailed that he may not be able to attend but would continue to work on the event.

Rough estimate that we may need a few hundred dollars for printing and other costs. Could it come from the grant? Or the town recreation fund? Or a 50/50 raffle? Or Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission in-kind?

**We discussed the following schedule for the event on May 20<sup>th</sup>:**

Location: Moretown Elementary School

Healthy snacks

Music (Harwood Jazz Band)

Historical Society exhibit (on site near Snack Bar)

12:00 pm - Long bike ride begins (more serious riders) (2-3 hours) include Moretown Common. Snack Bar opens.

1:00 pm - Recreational bike ride begins (1 hour more or less)

2:00 pm – Walks begin:

Village walk include library - snacks there too?

River walk

School trails walk (?)

2:00 – Music begins, Bikers start to return

3:15 pm – Byway dedication ceremony (and bike awards?)

3:30 pm – Kid's Bike checks/repair and Rodeo

4:30 pm – Finish up

**Other ideas for the day:**

- Put together an exhibit about the Taplin Schoolhouse using Earline's research and the photos Ellie has (show at Taplin or at the Elementary School)
- Open up Taplin School for visits
- Do a 50/50 raffle to help cover costs for the event
- Could we have a byway sign designed by then to show people, or perhaps we could have a few ideas for design and get people's thoughts about them
- Onion River bike mechanic to check out kids bikes and do tune ups
- Offer a canoe or kayak tour or demonstration

**The following tasks were assigned:**

- Plot out routes for long and recreational bike rides and estimate timing – Don and Randy
- Silly awards and prizes for bike rides – Don and Randy
- Draft a flyer/poster, brochure and some press releases for the next meeting – Jack
- \* Ask Harwood art teacher if the class could do a byway poster - Chloe
- Put together a safety plan for the bikes and walks – Craig
- Plot out walking tours/ trail walk – Clark with Denise and Ellie
- Organize Bike Rodeo/Coordinate with Moretown School – Chloe, Hilary, Sam, other Harwood students with Steve Gladczuk
- Check with Green Mountain Power about cleaning up the Taplin Schoolhouse enough to be suitable for visits on May 20 – Don
- Invite Senator Leahy; Representatives Grad and Donahue; Senators Doyle, Cummings, and Scott; others – Jack
- Check with Friends of Mad River re: doing a river walk – Jack
- See if Harwood Jazz Band could attend and perform – Hilary
- Create display/exhibits about Byway and History and Taplin Schoolhouse – Kate, Duane, Denise, Ellie

**Next meeting will be April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at Moretown Elementary School. We will:**

- review and finalize promotional materials and schedule for the day

- review and finalize a schedule for advertising and promoting the event
- review the draft safety plan
- review the bike routes and award ideas
- review walking tours and river walk plans
- discuss bike rodeo details
- report on progress re:
  - Taplin Schoolhouse exhibit
  - Taplin Schoolhouse availability
- update and ideas for dedication ceremony and attendees