

Killington Town Mountain Partnership Committee Meeting
Monday, March 15, 2010
SP Land Offices
11 a.m.

Attending the Meeting: Kathy Judge, Mary T. Holland, Chris Bianchi, Chris Nyberg, Steve Selbo, Kathleen Ramsay, Jeanne Karlhuber, Ken Lee, Jill Frankle and Bill Vines.

Update from each re respective sectors represented

Chris Nyberg - Killington/Pico Resort:

- From December 15th on, the Resort has been trending ahead of total visits for last year;
- The Mogul Challenge will be the weekend of March 27/28. The band "Moe" will be performing at the Mogul Challenge and in Rutland. Security will be more low-key than last year. No animals, no couches and no kegs will be allowed on the hill.
- Porsche Club cancelled its plans to hold an event in Killington in 2011. When the deal was put together in 2008, the Resort believed that the upper Snowshed parking lot would be paved by 2011, and, at this point, Killington can't guarantee that the paving will be done in time for the meet. The Resort pursued other paved venues for the Porsche events, but none of them worked out.
- Chris said that despite rumors to the contrary he is not leaving Killington.
- \$169 spring pass is available starting March 22nd. It is valid through the end of the year, hopefully until May 2nd.
- Ken Lee noted that the prices of seasons passes didn't change much – several people have commented that they appreciate the 2 "free" days on the blackout passes. Jeanne Karlhuber said that several of her guests of many years (20+) said that this year's conditions are the best they've ever had.

Steve Selbo – SP Land:

- Golf Course PUD first discussed by the Planning Commission on February 10th. Town Attorney to meet with the Planning Commission on March 24th to discuss the application with the Commission at 6 p.m. The Planning Commission will continue the warned public hearing on the Golf Course PUD at its meeting on the 24th starting at 7:30 p.m.
- Kathy Judge noted that several people have approached her as a member of the Town/Mountain Partnership Committee and asked her: 1. Why is this (the Planning Commission's review of the Ski Village) taking so long? Why is the Town dragging its feet? Chris Bianchi brought up that some on the planning commission have stated that they do not feel the application review process was a lengthy, drawn-out process, so there is a difference of opinion on this point.
- Chris Bianchi said that he has researched the number of Planning Commission members there in similar Towns: Killington is the only one with 9 members. By statute, there must be between five and nine members; VLCT recommends between five and seven members. Chris also mentioned that some towns have Development Review Boards and Planning Commissions, where our Planning Commission performs both site plan review and town planning functions.

Jeanne Karlhuber – EDT

- With the hiring of the Town's new Economic Development & Tourism Director, Seth Webb, the EDT is in the midst of a reorganization and rejuvenation. Whereas the EDTC subcommittees were doing the work of the department before, the level of effort required was not sustainable. Now the Commission will serve an advisory role.
- Seth brings not only much needed expertise to the position but enthusiasm and new, fresh ideas and approaches to the table.
- Jeanne thinks the EDTC should have seven members to give the community broader representation on the Commission.
- Strategic Plan – Based on a workshop facilitated by Jim Martin of the LA Group, there is a good outline in place for the strategic plan. Seth Webb is working toward having a draft of the plan at some point in April. He will review it with all major stakeholders, including, but not limited to, the Chamber, the Resort, SP Land and the Rotary. Jeanne would like to unveil the completed plan in a community forum.

- The EDT has two events coming up: the Film Festival April 8-11 at the Summit and the Killington Stage Race on Memorial Day Weekend. Jeanne said that the EDT wants to keep the businesses informed of developments and opportunities associated with these events. Bill Vines said that businesses need information about the Film Festival now so they can start promoting and planning for it.
- Chris Bianchi said that someone suggested a joint EDT/Resort promotional event to him: learn to ski free if you buy a lift ticket and rent equipment from a local business.
- Jeanne said that perhaps there's still time for the EDT to promote Killington in April.

Ken Lee – Planning Commission

- The Ken Lee noted that Planning Commission is considering the Golf Course PUD application.
- The PC also heard a presentation and community comment on a residential treatment facility in North Sherburne. By law, a single family dwelling can be converted to a residential treatment facility serving eight people without Town review.

Bill Vines – Chamber of Commerce

- The Chamber is now fully staffed by Erin Shimp (membership and marketing), Jillian Bourgholtzer (office manager) and Emily Fleming (administrative assistant).
- Seth Webb has met with all chamber directors. His qualifications, experience and enthusiasm have the Chamber hopeful for a productive working relationship with the EDTC.
- The Wine Festival will be July 16, 17 and 18.
- Wacky Winter Games will be March 22nd.

Other –

- What happened to the traffic lights at Glazebrook and Dean Hill Road? Chris Bianchi explained that they were not functioning properly, and by traffic codes, non-functioning traffic lights must be repaired or taken down. Given the high cost of repair (\$12,000 for Glazebrook and over \$80,000 for Dean Hill), and that these intersections do not meet the minimum warrants for signalization, the Select Board decided to have the traffic signals taken down. The Town has applied for grant funding for the replacement of the Glazebrook signals and is currently looking at traffic control options and funding for the Dean Hill intersection.

- Kathy Judge noted the Resort and SP Land's work with Green Mountain College on green resort development and encourages all businesses to interface with area colleges. Kathy also reported that she attended the Rutland Regional Chamber of Commerce's business exposition. The Holiday Inn was packed and there was a lot of positive energy, she noted. Kathy said that Rutland is hosting a "creative economy" exercise at the Paramount on March 31st, facilitated by Paul Costello of the Vermont Council on Rural Development.

Review purpose/tasks/future of Committee

It was the consensus of the Committee that it will continue to meet on a quarterly basis. The groups have built trust in this forum, and although many of the issues for which the Committee was originally formed have been addressed successfully, there is still a need for a forum for open communication.

The next meeting will be June 14th at 10 a.m.