



Village of Wells River
P.O. Box 737
Wells River, Vermont 05081
802-757-3401

ARPA Meeting April 19,2022 5:30 PM

Attending were: Brian Emerson , Jean Welch, June Griswold, Mary Schilke , Kelsey Root-Winchester, Jason Winchester,, John & Mev Mahnker, Don and Judy Waterman, Reverend James , Judy Murray, Richard Roderick

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 by Brian Emerson and immediately recessed so all could fill their plates with Food. We talked during dinner and there were several thoughts on what to spend the money on as follows:

It was decided that \$5000 was slated to be used to upgrade Office technology with the talk of purchasing a owl system so more people could attend meetings virtually.

Mike Thomas spoke regarding the Cross Vermont Trail Assoc. and asked for \$10000 to be used to bring the trail into the Village. See Letter Attached.

Kelsey. Root-Winchester — asked for \$20,000 to be used with possible matching grants to upgrade the Berry Field playground.

Baldwin Library was brought forth and it was asked for the sum of \$5000 to be spent as follows: \$2000 of which was to be given to Peggy Hewes for her work in services to the most vulnerable and needy during the Covid Crisis. \$3000 to be used for upgrades to the Library

Mev Mahnker asked for the Wells River to be dredged to avoid flooding in the future.

Kelsey Root Winchester asked for \$10,000 to be used to upgrade the Alley next to the Baldwin Library for a mural, benches and chairs for patrons of the library to gather for social distancing.

Richard Roderick asked for \$ to get a plan done to repair the sidewalks

After much discussion the upgrade to the Alley and upgrade of sidewalks was tabled for a future discussion .

In the end a motion was made for the following expenditures:

\$5000 for Wells River Village Office for Technology Upgrades

\$20,000 to be used to upgrade the Berry Field Playground

\$5000 for the Baldwin Library with \$2000 for Peggy Hewes and \$3 for library upgrades



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\$10,000 for the CVTA as discussed with Mike Thomas

Motion was made by Jean Welch

Seconded by June Griswold all in favor

Meeting Adjourned 7PM

5/19/2022

To Wells River Village Trustees

On behalf of the Cross Vermont Trail Association (CVTA) I am submitting a request for

\$10,000 of American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds from Wells River Village. These funds would be used by CVTA to work together with landowners to identify a route for the trail, to scope out what it would take to build the trail, and to produce a conceptual plan to bring the CVT the last 2.5 + miles from Newbury into Wells River Village.

The intended use of ARPA funds is to help towns recover from the effects of the Covid

pandemic. During this pandemic the public has sought opportunities for outdoor recreation at an unprecedented level. The CVTA proposes to develop a plan to extend the last 2.5 miles of the trail into Wells River Village. When people have more opportunity to get out and safely recreate and enjoy the outdoors, this is good for their physical and mental health. This is also good for businesses along the trail.

Both the Wells River Village and the Town of Newbury have recognized the CVT as an economic development engine as stated in Newbury Town Plan under the following sections: I. General Plan Goals #11 and #12; III. Economic Development # 7; and VI.

Transportation #7.

The Cross Vermont Trail going from Lake Champlain in Burlington to Wells River Village also connects across the Connecticut River to the Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail. This puts Wells River Village in a position to attract recreational tourists who will stop to have lunch, spend the night, and shop in local stores.

Finishing the CVT into Wells River Village will also allow local folks to have safe off-

road access to Blue Mt. School, Groton State Forest and beyond. The ARPA funds can

help us reach this goal. •

CVTA is asking both Wells River Village and the Town of Newbury to contribute

proportionally due to the scope of this project.

American Recovery Plan Act Funds Request:

Wells River Village	\$10,000.
Newbury	\$30,000.

Total Fund Request

\$40,000.

CVTA is currently implementing our new 5-year Strategic Plan. We have had great success working in the Wells River area and with Blue Mt. School. We look forward to doing more. CVTA is seeking to work with both Newbury and Wells River Village on ARPA funding. If you have any questions please contact me. Thank You!

Michael Thomas, CVTA board chair, mikethom1@charter.net; 802-xxx-xxxx

WRAP

WELLS RIVER ACTION PROGRAM
Post Office Box 538
Wells River, Vermont 05081

12 May 2022

2022 is going to be an ambitious year for WRAP. We have decided to create a Projects Committee, with several subcommittees tasked with exploring several projects to benefit the village. These subcommittees are made up of WRAP members, but you do not need to be a member of WRAP to attend the meetings, or to help out!

One subcommittee is focusing on the alleyway between the Library and the Baldwin Block, where the Post Office and LC Design Concepts reside. This is an overlooked space that we are hoping to reclaim. Last fall, EP Management paid to have the brush removed, which has improved the space dramatically, and gave us a glimpse of what the space could be! This project involves a new patio space of some sort, several octagonal picnic tables, and possibly from lights strung up to create a fun atmosphere. The goal of this project will be to reclaim an unused space for community gatherings, and other small group events. Another part of this committee's purpose is to place new benches throughout the village to make it more walkable. We have already submitted one grant request to hopefully pay for the tables, benches, and some of the site work. As we get close to making the actual project happen, we will be looking for volunteers!

Another subcommittee has been tasked with exploring the cost and feasibility of revamping Berry Memorial Field. The hope is to be able to raise the funds to replace the playground equipment with a more updated, and inclusive set up. We would also love to explore the option having a designated parking area actually located on the Berry Field property, as well as improved sidewalks for easier foot access from the village. This project is definitely a longer-term goal as it will require substantial fundraising and research.

Our third subcommittee is focusing on the placement of Electric Vehicle charging stations somewhere in the village. This also requires substantial research, grant writing, and time. We have a few locations in mind, possibly the last spot in front of the Post Office, and maybe in the commuter parking lot behind Wells River Savings Bank.

All of the subcommittees have met a few times, as well as the general project committee. We would love to have community members and employees of local businesses attend these meetings, and feel free to help out! Check out the WRAP facebook page for times and locations of these committee meetings.

For more information and to join the committee contact Kelsey Root Winchester at 802 757 0101, Ext 1, Lauren Nelson at 802 477 2428 or email WRAP at wrapwr@gmail.com.

The	NAME THE ALLEY CONTEST	Contest ends on May 25, 2022 at 11:59pm
Alley should be named	_____	
Name	Town	Telephone
_____	_____	_____
Age: Circle One: Over 18 Under 18	Email Address	_____

Either email your entry to wrapwr@gmail.com with the above information, use this link:

<https://forms.glaI6EjadnesAuREIBi7> or submit this form and drop it off in the contest box at the library

The mission of WRAP is to enhance the quality of life in Wells River Village and its immediately surrounding villages and towns by: (1) Supporting affordable and accessible housing, business and economic development, and, tourism and recreation. (2) Preserving the rural and historic character, and the ambiance of Wells River Village. (3) Establishing avenues of cooperation with other organizations, non-profit groups and governmental agencies. Membership in WRAP is open to all who are interested in improving and preserving the Wells River Area whether or not they reside in the Wells River area.