

Meeting Minutes Thursday, July 1st, 2021: Paul-Lin Dairy, Bakersfield

Attendees: Paul Stanley, Cynthia Scott, Wendy Scott, Brian Jerose, John Little, Craig Cimmons, Ari Lattanzi and Lindsey Wight

- 1) Thanks once again to Paul and Linda for hosting us at their beautiful home, and to everyone for providing wonderful things to eat!
- 2) Meeting was called to order at 8:15
- 3) Oops – Lindsey didn't get the June meeting minutes out; we'll have to approve both June and July during our August meeting
- 4) ECO AmeriCorps 2021/2022 member update: Two strong candidates, both with pre-existing relationships with Vermont. Ari and Lindsey spoke with each, and would be happy to have either placed with us. The ECO program staff and the prospective member will decide soon.
- 5) Commitment to Abenaki: Discussion of whether we should formalize some commitment in writing/mission. Some questions were raised: in what ways are representatives of ANM involved with MRBA – could they become more so? Should we create a general "Our Commitment" and include Abenaki as part of it (either called out, or more generally embracing all people)? Vermont's Releaf Collective: "Breaking ground in Vermont as a network by and for [BIPOC] as we advance racial equity in land, environment, agriculture, and foodways". Vermont Land Trust held a webinar about these concerns – send out to the Board?
Next meetings: Board homework will be to review language that we can consider adopting on this topic.
- 6) 25th year celebration thoughts/options: hire a band that has a following: people will come to see the band, and learn about the MRBA. Catered meal – example cost of \$15/plate, we charge \$60/plate as a fundraiser. Fall at Jay Peak – foliage. Bean and Brew (if it's happening) – this will bring people in; get them to stay for our event?
- 7) Other business: Paul suggested that we consider bringing on a part time admin assistant – seems like it could be a good place to spend some of our banked income; make things a bit smoother. Thoughts for a job description? Lindsey will bring some initial ideas to the Board next meeting.
Not unrelatedly: a gentle reminder that the Board hasn't completed any quarterly volunteer timesheets this year...
- 8) Next meeting – August 5, 2021 – at the Pine Cone?
Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.