

Waterville Valley Planning Board
Summary of the Minutes for the
Board of Selectmen and Planning Board Joint Workshop Meeting
Held on Tuesday, September 17, 2019, at 8:00 am
Downstairs Meeting Room- Town Hall
MINUTES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Select board Chair Mike Aronson at 8:00 am

ROLL CALL

1. Attendance:

- a. **Selectmen:** Margaret Turner (Selectmen), Mike Aronson (Selectmen), Rich Rita (Selectmen)
- b. **Planning Board:** Bill Larsen (Planning Board (PB)), Mike Koppel (PB), Wendi Rathgeber (PB), John Recine (PB), Bill Spence (PB), Terry Waite (PB-Chair)
- c. **Waterville Valley Resort (WVR):** Tim Smith (GM of Waterville Valley Resort), David Dean (Waterville Valley Resort), James Sununu (Waterville Valley Resort), Michael Sununu (Waterville Valley Resort)
- d. **Town of Waterville Valley:** Sharon Charron (Assistant Town Clerk), Mark Decoteau (Town Manager), Tara Bamford (Town Consultant): Brooke Wakefield (Town Recreation)
- e. **Public:** Tom and Vicky Myrick

New Business:

T. Smith introduced the Master Development Plan of the Waterville Valley Resort to the members of the Board of Selectmen as well as the Planning Board so that everyone is aware of what is recorded before it becomes public. The plan is a roadmap for how WVR hopes to develop the resort. T. Smith spoke to the status of the current plan being accepted by the National Forest Service (NFS) but not approved. T. Smith started to go through the document addressing the goals of the document. First goal: Identify areas of expansion and improve on existing facilities in a conceptual and phased process; Second: Position WVR and the Town of WV for growth; Third: Develop a direct transport link between WVR and the Town of WV; Fourth: Improve existing infrastructure and add new if needed. T. Smith showed a map of the current ski area boundary and the new proposed expansion of the ski area just past south ridge. T. Smith continued the presentation with a discussion of purpose and need. Technology and guest experience are rapidly progressing in the industry; WVR recognizes this and in order to stay competitive need to have areas addressed. A catalyst will be a transportation system connecting the Town and WVR. T. Smith spoke to how the connection would heighten accessibility to both WVR and the Town as well as reduce congestion on the roadways. T. Smith spoke about awareness of the aging facilities and the need to address them. T. Smith moved into discussion of a proposed lift to connect the town and the mtn. T. Smith adds how a connecting lift would allow a visual and physical connection between the Town and the Mtn.

T. Smith took focus to the Nordic system in the Town and the need of snowmaking near town square and other parts of the Nordic system. T. Smith also added the desire to have a few trails added so that skiers can connect from the North end to the South end using Snow's Mtn as a midpoint. T. Smith touched really quickly on comfortable capacity for WVR. Currently they are around the 4,700 skiers per day mark but hope to expand to the 6,000 skiers per day mark. T. Smith took time to note that parking is a limiter for most resorts, however with WVR parking is not a big issue.

The summer operations was the next topic that T. Smith addressed. T. Smith noted that the transportation link earlier discussed between the Town and WVR would be operational during the summer. T. Smith took time to explain the different zoning areas of the mountain going from zone of least activity to zones of high activity totaling five different zones. T. Smith touched on a few logistical topics such as snowmaking, power, and parking and how each of those with minor tweaks and continued analytics will help WVR stay competitive and heighten the quality of life experience for visitors.

In closing T. Smith recapped the purpose of the meeting and the renewing of the Master Development Plan. T. Smith then opened the floor to questions.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: “To adjourn at 8:40 am.”

Motion: M. Koppel

Second: M. Aronson

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Guiliani