



Maine Woods Consortium

5/1/09 Coordinating Team Report

Funding

Davis Conservation

- Bruce worked with Andy to develop proposal for funding of Landscape Resources workplan (per EDA). \$25K. Andy completed and submitted April 10.

Maine Environmental Funders Quality of Place Grant

- April 17. Bruce completed and submitted a letter of inquiry per instructions from Coordinating Team. \$100K requested: \$50K for capacity building (EDA) and \$50K for tourism investment pool.

RBEG Grant

- April 27. Bruce completed and submitted \$50K RBEG request to add to Betterment tourism investment pool. At suggestion of Mike Grondin (USDA) and others, focused on single project instead of broad “investment pool” approach. Request for funding for tourism training networks brought support from CenTRO, Maine Office of Tourism, Sunrise County Economic Development, Greater Franklin Development, Piscataquis County Economic Development and many local businesses (thanks to Harold C. for helping with this!)

Betterment Fund

- The subcommittee recommended the following projects to be funded: Katahdin “Made by Hand,” Maine Woods Discovery Package, Wabanaki Cultural Tourism Center Website, and Maine Woods Tourism Training Network. (Thanks to Mike and committee members for really great work on this.)
- The Coordinating Team approved the recommendations.
- April 30, Bruce completed and submitted full proposal for Betterment, \$50K this year.

EDA

- Dina reports EDA “match” letters received from all except Gail Chase and EMDC rep. (Chris Shrum has left EMDC) Bob Thompson to speak with Mike Aube and Ken Young, get their support.
- Otherwise, AVCOG request to EDA for \$210,000 ready to go – only lacking match letters!

Maine Humanities Council

- Bruce submitted “Infrastructure” preliminary request (April 1) for \$10K to pay for touch screen computers and programming to test kiosk system, two sites – Farmington and Skowhegan. (Knowledge Power group). Has been invited to submit final proposal.

Communications

- In response to Maine Rural Partners survey, Shaunacy revamped the MWC website to reflect the change in focus discussed at the last meeting. The Coordinating Team page has been elevated to main menu on the website. Feedback from Coordinating Team suggested that it was hard to find meeting notes, meeting dates, and email addresses.
- Shaunacy is encouraging all Coordinating Team members to forward information about events and projects that align with MWC values and initiatives to be included in the newsletter.