

RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MARSHFIELD TOWN HALL

MEETING ROOM 3

April 10, 2019

IN ATTENDANCE: Steve Goodhue, Ned Bangs, Eric Goodwin, Keith Rice, Brendan Coyne

ADVISORS: Greg Guimond, Bill Grafton, Bert O'Donnell

ABSENT: Vicki McPherson

VISITORS: Mike Arsenault, Richard Bell, Angela Scieszka, Michael Hobart, Debbie Hobart, Rosemary Patterson, Gretchen McCarthy, Melanie, Galie, Frank Hartnett, Lorrie Dahlen, Maura McDonough, Judith Freden

EG motioned to open meeting. Steve 2nd. Vote unanimous. The meeting was called to order by Brendan at 7:03 pm on Apr 10, 2019.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of minutes moved to next meeting. Brendan motioned to table minutes approval to next meeting. Keith 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Ned opened the meeting by asking all members to introduce themselves to guests and introducing the Bridle Path/Rail Trail project up for vote at Town Meeting April 22, 2019.

Ned presented the PowerPoint project overview to the audience.

Judy Freden (guest) noted that the stone structure near Church St @ Ferry St. was confirmed as a root cellar/cold storage for the Ames family by Richard DuBois.

Judy Freden provided a list of concerns related to the project – she noted she's opposed to any new parking near Station St. She listed a number of other concerns such as kids drinking, current problems with speeding traffic, that the historic nature of the neighborhood shouldn't be subject to any further activity, that the nearby towing company's operations may be affected. She asked about Eversource awareness – Bill Grafton noted that Eversource gave us a letter of support for this project and they are aware of it.

Maura McDonough, 70 Ferry St. noted she lives near the path. She noted there's a history of illegal activity in the area and that in one instance she removed 4.5 pick-up truck loads of garbage from the area over 2 days. She noted concerns about etiquette between horse riders,

bikers, and walkers. She noted that she belongs to the National Equine Land Conservation Resource Center which has lots of resources about equine use in communities.

Lorrie Dahlan, 93 Summer St. thanked the committee for recommending stone dust instead of pavement. She recommended putting up signage every 100 feet related to etiquette and safety for horse riders. She noted horses may have safety issues with painted tar surfaces and footing. She requested longer fencing on the ends of Keville Bridge as horses could spook and the area would be dangerous if so.

Judy Freden noted that her interpretation of the law was that the trail should be focused on the horses and gives them priority. Greg Guimond noted in response that's why the trail is being proposed as stonedust and not pavement. Judy further noted she had multiple concerns about the use of stonedust.

Lorrie Dahlan requested a flashing light activated by users on the trail to indicate to drivers that pedestrians are present.

Ned noted an easel is available for RTC town meeting use to display a project board about the Bridle Path/Rail Trail project.

EG motioned to accept current Corn Hill map. Steve 2nd. Approved unanimously.

Eric mentioned that Mike Moresco noted he'd be the best contact for Selectmen to discuss with the RTC long-term mission/goals. The RTC will invite him to a June or July meeting.

Ned reported out on the potential sculpture installation brought forward from a citizen and mentioned in previous meetings. Noted Michael Moresco's support of the project and a potential presentation to the Selectmen. Ned noted that the project has been distributed throughout town departments and committees. Brendan noted that, as a member of the Historical Commission, that the Historical Commission supported this project. Bert noted a preference to keep Conservation Land as natural as possible. Other concerns were noted about opening the door to other proposed projects.

Ned briefed the RTC on upcoming scheduled walks and he'll send a list to the committee.

Bill advised to get hooked up with 'Virtual Towns'. Ned noted that John Nash would be a good first contact to figure out how to update our website. Brendan will reach out to John Nash to inquire about the process to update our website and report back to the RTC and Steve will be a secondary contact.

'New member approval' agenda item tabled until the Chair is in attendance.

Greg noted RTC is waiting to hear back from DPW related to sidewalk funding.

Greg noted Karen O'Donnell from Open Space Committee mentioned we have a greenway that could be connected to Pratt property once the Willow St. bridge is improved. RTC should keep this potential in mind.

Eric reported that the Eversource letter for Rail Trail easements has the proper address, confirmed by Mr. Sellers of Eversource.

Ned noted that Jimmy Roderick (sp?) Jr. called him and asked about creating a parking lot on town land and volunteered his labor and materials to do it. Greg and Bill noted there is a current encroachment that's being discussed on the property in question. Ned will circle back with Jimmy to let him know to keep talking with Conservation.

Greg noted he has the original New Haven line map showing all right-of-ways, if any questions come up about rail trail width during the process.

Eric noted that if the Harbor Walk project is green lighted the RTC should ensure Wharf Creek is ready to go around the same time that project is completed.

May 8, 7pm is the next meeting. 8:55 pm adjourned.