

RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE
Town Hall 870 Moraine Street Marshfield, MA
Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Recreation Trails Committee
April 13, 2022

Hearing Room 1, (Planning Board Hearing Room)

Meeting CTO: 7:07pm

Present: Ned Bangs, Scott DeCastro, Keith Rice
Absent: Steve Goodhue, Brendan Coyne
Advisor: Bill Grafton

Guests:
Mike Arsenault, Angela Scieszka, Pam Keith, Steve Lynch, Diane Jordan, Jeff Wilson

Motion by NB to bring forward discussion on a proposed mountain bike race in the Carolina Hill area. Jeff is a resident of Marshfield, coaches youth mountain bike program in Wampatuck State Park, discussed a fall (10-2) youth bike race. Jeff is a member of NEMBA and has volunteered at mountain bike races in the past. Proceeds from the race will be donated to the RTC for trail improvements. Members of NEMBA and Friends of Wampatuck will help with trail improvements. NEMBA will also help with improvements to the trail system at Furnace Brook Watershed. Improvements will include a new trail head, footbridge, kiosk and a smaller trail loop. BG will help to determine wet land issues. Saint Christine Church supports the improvements and will help where they can. Ned will ask for a letter of support.

Steve Goodhue enters meeting at 7:23 pm

Ned to email Jeff and Bill Grafton to set up a day and time to meet and review both locations. Ned made a motion to support the bike race and trail improvements. Second by Scott Decastro. Vote unanimous. Ned will also coordinate a date to go before the Select Board for their support, then on to Police, Fire and Eames Way School.

Old Business:

Webster's Wilderness Handrail-
Keith will take the lead on this project. We plan to meet on Monday, April 18, 8:00am. We can use a couple members to help, should take an hour or two. The hand rail will help users to walk over the stone wall and continue on the Yellow Trail Extension.

Eversource Lease Agreement-

Greg Guimond and Scott DeCastro met with representatives of Eversource, Jennifer Valente and Tim Allen. Properties to review include Station Street and South River Sub Stations, as well as the sub station located at Red Gold Farm, off Webster Street.

We should have a Green Light for Station Street and South River Street in a few weeks. Red Gold Farm will require further study, as Eversource needs to study future needs at this site.

You Are and Horse Etiquette signs are on schedule to be installed in May.

Trail Rankings- The next set of trails to focus on are:

Eversource - sub stations and Red Gold Farm

Modera/Mill Creek

Furnace Brook Watershed

Old Pilgrim Trail

Tom Greland asked about the next kiosk and the shape, landscape or portrait. Discussion on location. Station Street location is not ready. Ned suggested that the kiosk be installed at a new trail head at Saint Christine Church parking lot. Ned to ask the Church to forward a letter to support trail work, parking and kiosk.

Gangway-Brendan sent a letter to the Town Administrator and Harbor Master, requesting the soon to be surplus Gangway at Damon's Point. A replacement gangway will be installed at Damon's Point in July. RTC will then be able to transport the surplus gangway to Red Gold Farm. The gangway will cross a stream and make access possible.

New Business:

Life Long Learning -

RTC will offer 2 guided community walks.

1. Thursday, May 19, 5:00pm

Meet at CVS rear parking lot. The walk will continue along the Rail Trail, to South River Street, and then on to Pratt and finally back to the Rail Trail. We will offer some history of the area and plans for the future.

2. Saturday, June 18, 9:00 am

Meet at the kiosk located near the rear parking lot of the Senior Center.

We will walk to Cherry Hill and then to continue to Webster's Estate or Slaughter Island, depending on interest.

Heavy rain or thunder will cancel, rain date will be the next day, same time and location.

Hikes will be limited to 12 participants. Sign up at the Senior Center. Ned will ask RTC members and friends to help with the walks.

Harbor Trail

Discussion on the Harbor Trail, as proposed by the Harbor Master.

Harbor Master presented his plans to the RTC on February 16. This discussion was followed up with a March 12, site visit and walk of the proposed trail next to Harbor Park. Additional questions were compiled and emailed to the Harbor Master, Ned read the questions and response.

Several residents attended the meeting and a good discussion took place. Questions relating to ADA access to the trail. Ned believes that the trail needs to be ADA accessible, Steve Goodhue doesn't think the trail needs to be ADA, Bill Grafton, Conservation Agent, said the area was a trail previously and does not need to be ADA compliant, Ned to look into ADA requirements.

Stone Dust- cost appears to be very high. \$44,000 for about 1/2 mile, vs \$75,000 for 3 miles atvBridle Path.

Testing-Additional sediment testing to be conducted on the berm and lower area, when?

Who controls the land, DPW or BOS?

Residents concerned that Zoning Board has not commented on the project.

Concerns regarding additional traffic, foot and vehicle, and parking lot expansion.

Underaged drinking in the area, lack of privacy with users walking on the berm.

Neighborhood opposition to a trail.

Ned was satisfied with the responses given by Harbor Master and engineer. Ned liked the idea of a small trail in this area. We have an aging population, here is an opportunity to have an accessible trail for all to use.

After extensive discussion the Trails Committee was ready to vote. Ned asked for a motion to vote on the trail. Steve 1st, Keith 2nd. Vote-

Ned Yes

Steve, Scott, Keith No

Motion failed, 3 against, 1 for.

Community input - discussion took place during item discussion

Correspondence- letters read during previous discussion.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 7:00 p.m.