

RECREATION TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MARSHFIELD TOWN HALL

HEARING ROOM II

September 19, 2023

Meeting CTO: 7:02 PM Motion to open, Ned, 2nd Scott, vote unanimous

Present: Ned Bangs, Keith Rice, Scott DeCastro, Chris Shugrue

Absent: Brendan Coyne

Guests: Mike Arsenault, Mark Skalla

Advisors: None

Old Business

Minutes –July 18 and August 15, 2023 approved as written

Updates

Eversource – Virtual meeting, September 13

Permission to: Install sidewalk, Parsonage to Webster Street, (to the cut in)

Install the Gangway over the river

Build an elevated board walk

Further discussion regarding access is required.

Furnace Brook Watershed –trail cutting and install of a footbridge to be planned for this fall. Ned to coordinate with Jeff Wilson for a fall date. NEMBA and other volunteers will help. Footbridge plan has been approved by Building Department. Area to include new entrance with loop trail and area for a bench.

RTC Identification and Branding – order has been placed, anticipated arrival end of September and mid- November.

Budget- Handouts were helpful, thank you Tracy Pomella, CPC. Project 1 budget will zero out this month with the Union Street Woodlands kiosk.

Brooks Tilden Bench - The bench has been ordered, the group will advise Ned when the install date has been planned.

172 South River Street – RTC continues to make progress, Ned to meet with the Board of Public Works September 25.

New Business:

Eagle Scout project- Ned met with Troop 424 Eagle Scout candidate Delaney Allen and her parents Sunday, September 17. The group walked the Rail Trail and Pratt Farm. The project will include a Wildlands Trust type bench, with a stone dust path and a footbridge. Delaney will meet with her Eagle Advisor to discuss the planned project.

RTC Membership - Mike Arsenault submitted an application to the Select Board to become an Alternate member to the RTC. Mike attends the monthly meetings, helps with the Trail Ambassadors, and supports projects at Town Meeting. Keith motioned to support Mike's appointment. Scott second, vote unanimous. We will get Mike on the Select Board agenda.

Alyssa Carroll submitted an application to the Select Board asking to be appointed as an Alternate member. Due to work projects Alyssa withdrew her application at this time. RTC looks forward to meeting with her in the future.

Election-Discussion of positions and responsibilities. Ned – Chair, Scott Vice Chair, Keith, Recording Secretary, (Chris will be Alternate Recording Secretary in the event that Keith is absent).

Members will draft responsibilities for the October meeting, for each of the above positions. It is planned that RTC Elections will be held each July.

Campout –BSA Troop 424 would like to campout at Webster's Wilderness on September 30th. Troop 424 continues to help maintain Webster's Wilderness. Ned motioned to support the request, Scott second, vote unanimous. Ned shall advise Troop 424 to connect with Conservation Commission for approval.

RTC recommends the following: Contact Conservation Commission for approval, Fire Department for a fire permit, best practices, Camp and Leave No Trace, if vehicles are on site overnight, the make, year, model and license number to Marshfield police, for when they patrol that area. It was noted that Troop 424 received permission to campout at Webster's Wilderness several years ago. Ned will forward a letter to the Conservation Commission describing the RTC support

Fall Town Meeting – Monday, October 16. Several articles of interest. The RTC voted to support Article 10, unanimous.

Trail Ambassadors – It was noted that TA have been working on the following trails. South River Park, Rail Trail, Pratt Farm and The Pilgrim Trail.

Next up will be Webster's Wilderness, Wharf Creek and Furnace Brook Watershed

Fall Gathering – Save the date! The annual fall gathering will be Sunday, November 19, 1-3 pm at the Stellwagen Brewery, details to follow.

CPC Grant- RTC will plan to submit a CPC application next year. At this time the grant application will include Red Gold Farm, Brooks Tilden Shipyard, etc. Kiosks, footbridges, benches, shade shelters etc.

Correspondence:

The Select Board accepted a \$2,000 donation to the RTC from NEMBA, for the June 2023 Carolina Hill Mountain Bike Classic.

Open Space Committee has asked the RTC if they are interested in creating new trails, specifically at the JOMAT property. Ned made a motion that RTC would be interested in using existing money in the JO Mat account to support the possibility of establishing new trails on this property. Keith second, unanimous. The RTC is interested in opportunities to create trails on existing properties as well as future parcels.

Community Input- Town Administrator Michael Maresco stopped by the meeting to thank the RTC for the excellent work on the trails.

Next Meeting: – Tuesday, October 17, 7:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn, Keith, second Ned,

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm Minutes submitted by Keith Rice and Ned Bangs.