

The meeting of the Ashburnham Rail Trail Committee was held at Stevens Memorial Library on Monday, January 9, 2006.

Sworn Members in Attendance: Sallie Thoma, Chris Picone and Irene Gelinas. Ken Dolder, Janet Dolder, Barnie Hines were absent. Ex Officio Member, Eric Smith, Town Planner attended. Cec Snow (ACT) attended. Mary Coswell has resigned.

Sallie opened meeting at 6:45 P.M. December minutes to be approved at February Meeting due to lack of a quorum.

#### OLD BUSINESS;

Sallie informed us that Darlene from Railroad cannot give us a list of all the parcels they own in the town of Ashburnham that we could possible purchase. There is not a parcel of record between Williams & Turnpike Roads. We should help to research old deeds. We need to get copy of deeds of parcels previously purchased by the town. Eric & Sallie to meet with assessor's office. The bank said no minimum amount is needed to open an account but that a Tax # must be obtained from the State. Not clear on a tax-deductible issue. Separate account for RT donations. Sallie, Ken, Chris & Mary met to prepare for the Jan. 10th meeting reference wetlands in Willard Rd. area and program for town meeting. Width of trail can vary due to conditions.

Eric prepared presentation for Jan 19th Town Meeting in coordination with Chris. Definition of RT, photos, where, why, safe non-motorized route for residents. Article 3 is to request design work for construction. Say what we did with past money, etc. Article 4 monies to buy between Williams & Turnpike and possible extension to Briggs.

Eric attended a pre-application meeting at MRPC for Transportation Enhancement program (5 yr plan). 80% of funds are Federal & 20% from State. We need 25% of design completed before qualifying. Also Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program (CMAQ).

We discussed having an informational public meeting in the future. We will be preparing a survey of the town residents to obtain their input and suggestions hopefully through AMLP.

Also newspaper article.

Meeting adjourned 8:10 P.M. Next meeting on Monday, 13 February 2006.