

ASHBURNHAM RAIL TRAIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday November 8th, 2010

A meeting of the Ashburnham Rail Trail Committee was held at the Stevens Memorial Library on October 12th, 2010, and was called to order at 6:43 p.m.

Sworn-In Members in attendance: Paula Gorrell, Art Pinsoneault, Sherisa Sterling, and Sallie Thoma.

Also present was: Cec Snow (ACT)

September minutes were approved with changes on a motion by Paula and a second by Art.

Sallie opened the meeting by explaining that the Town Hall has somehow lost the sheet that we signed stating that we read the Sexual Harassment policy. She had a replacement sheet and asked us to sign. Sallie will drop off the sheet at Town Hall.

Sallie went on to read a letter from Marshall Dennis, the chairman of the Conservation Commission, which stated that our Order of Resource Area Design (ORAD), or wetland delineation, had been extended to October 23, 2013. This concluded Sallie's new business.

Art asked if we should suspend Rail Trail meetings until April of 2011. Paula asked that this be publicized, and we agreed that this would be in the minutes and distributed to committee members.

Paula spoke about giving more people opportunities to help out and share the burden that is now on Sallie. We all agreed that other people should get involved with tasks like filling out the ConCom requests.

Paula then spoke of a meeting with Tom Kamila from Monty Tech, who was ready to begin work on our kiosk and trail signs. He needs to know what we want on them. Paula asked if the committee had money, to which Sallie answered "yes", but also pointed out that she, or other members of the committee, may have access to the supplies that Tom needs. Paula said that we should look at the one he made at Flat Rock, and if we like it, he can make one like that. Paula said that she would go and take pictures of the kiosk and send them to us.

Paula next reported on the Moving Together conference that she went to. She suggested that we might get grant money for the Puffer Street section, since there is a focus on rail trails near populated areas. Sallie reminded us that the ownership of the Puffer Street section is uncertain. Paula also mentioned the Safe Routes to Schools program and the fight against obesity. She mentioned that she met a woman with the Safe Routes to Schools program named Samantha, who would be willing to come out and talk to us. Sallie reminded us that the schools must take the lead on this program, and that we have the support of the administration at Briggs. Art mentioned that the area near Briggs is waiting for work by Mark Dymek. Paula said that she would follow up on the Safe Routes to Schools program.

Sallie stated that she thought that our next step is to follow up on the 50% plan. Cec reminded us that this would have to go out to bid.

The committee agreed that the next meeting would be on Monday, April 11th, 2011

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m. with a motion from Art and a second by Paula.

Submitted by Art Pinsoneault

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