

ASHBURNHAM RAIL TRAIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday July 11, 2011

A meeting of the Ashburnham Rail Trail Committee was held at the Stevens Memorial Library on July 13, 2011, and was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Sworn in members in attendance: Barnie Hines, Sherisa Sterling, Paula Gorrell, Sallie Thoma and Cris Iacobone.

Also present was: Cec Snow (ACT) and Noah Smith.

Everyone forgot to bring the June minutes so they were not approved. It will be done at the next meeting.

Sallie started by stating that Downtown Day went well, and we got a lot of names on the sign-up sheet.

Sallie then introduced Noah. He is an Eagle Scout candidate interested in taking on the bridge at Whitney Pond project. She also said that Jim Kreidler couldn't make it to the meeting. He will let Sallie know when he will be available. She said that he gave her the name of the woman that was involved in the Winchendon Rail Trail who could possibly help us. She has the name written down at home, but couldn't recall it.

We then spoke about the clean up at Williams Road. There were only 5 of us and we did what we could but it wasn't too much. We left early, and Dean said he would ask Steve Nims if the town could clean the section between Williams and Cashman Road. None of the people that signed up at Downtown Days showed up for the clean-up. Sallie stated that we probably don't need to do anymore monthly clean ups. There's not a lot more we can do with the sections that are cleared. Art made the bluebird boxes and Paula printed more brochures, so we can put them up at Willard Road and 150 Center St.

Noah then spoke and told us he is willing to take on the bridge project at Whitney Pond. He has been to the bridge and understands what the project is. Paula said her sister was recently there and there has been some flooding and some of the boards were washed out. Nobody else has been there or seen the damage. Sallie told Noah that to start this project, he will need to talk to an engineer, and Noah stated that his teachers may be able to help him with that. She also told him he should speak to Doug Briggs and the Conservation Commission. Paula mentioned that the Bresnahan Center would bring increased traffic to that part of the trail and we need to make sure it's safe.

Sherisa then said that on the 250th Anniversary there will be a road race and suggested that the rail trail between Cashman and Williams Road should be used as part of the race. Sallie agreed it was a good idea.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM, by a motion from Sallie, seconded by Cris.