

Holland Trails Committee Minutes

Date: August 26, 2015

Present: Richard & Chris Haller, Jackie Proko, Fred Beaulieu, and Paula Bak

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Dick Haller. The minutes were approved as read.

Old Business

The remainder of the Norcross Grant has been expended. The cost for 2,500 book-marks was \$91.00. They will be placed in the school, library, community center and other locations in town

No vandalism has been observed to the portable toilet. It is being used. The arrangement is for the Board of Health to be billed for next 3 months. This takes us through Sep. 29th. Dick will talk to Keith Beecher about extending the facility for an additional month.

We have ordered & accepted delivery of 51 yds. of gravel mix for Old E. Brimfield Rd. The cost is \$803.25. Our total for the year is \$1976.53 (\$23.47 unexpended).

The trail exploration was interesting. The Butterworth property trail is unmarked & difficult to locate. May Brook Glen is short and steep. There is no trailhead parking. Although it is a lovely setting, there appears to be little opportunity for trail development.

Dick spoke to Kim Walker (Robyn Hillard is also active). Both are parents who run a runner's club for 5th & 6th graders. The club starts 6-8 weeks before the Holland 5K. It is intended to train kids to push a wheelchair (not all do).

The 5K benefits the school trip to Maine which is free to all. \$6,000 to \$7,000 is raised each year

The club includes a pep rally to meet a disabled child. Robyn would be happy to have us also talk to the children and promote the Brimfield 5 K as well as our trails in town. We could also give an idea of what 5K would be on the trail. The club has no pressing need for funds, although they could use reflective vests.

Paula Bak attended to discuss the possibility of a trail at the community center. She is open to a quarter mile trail. She is also interested in developing exercise stations as well as a bocce court, horseshoe pits, shuffleboard, and two volleyball courts.

The Committee will meet Paula at 1:00 PM on September 1st to measure a possible trail. The next step will be to figure the amount of material needed and its cost. Dick will take care of this and will also research the ADA regulations for trails. A goal is to put together an attractive grant proposal.

New Business:

The workday is scheduled for September 26th. Brimfield will be working that day as well on Old Morse Road, so a cooperative effort will be possible. Chris will provide coffee and snacks. Paula will include it in the newsletter, if we get the information to her. Jackie will see to this. Guy Langevin will be contacted for possible participation. Dick will see if Pastor Bruce Plumley might support this effort.

The possibility of leading a trip down the Quinebaug was discussed. It was concluded that the water is too low this year.

The Zucchini Festival was August 9th. Although we did not have a table, the Reservoir Association agreed to have our materials on their table.

Upcoming dates:

Tuesday, September 1st meet with Paula Bak

Wednesday, September 23rd: our next meeting

Saturday, September 26th: workday

Saturday, October 17th: Walktober trail ride

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Richard Haller
Chairman / Secretary