

Holland Trails Committee Minutes

Date: March 23, 2016

Present: Richard & Chris Haller, Jackie Proko, Stacy Riley, & Fred Beaulieu

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

Old Business:

The proposed calendar was discussed and approved.

In Brimfield, the survey team will be on site in a week or two. Soil borings and test pits will be completed. These are the first steps to complete the bridge abutment plans.

New Business:

A trail description with trailhead locations has been submitted for inclusion in the QHCC Tourism Guide.

Dick reported on the Route 20 Hearing. The plan is for 4.06 miles of rte. 20 between Brimfield and Sturbridge. There are 11 foot lanes currently. Fatalities were 4X state average from 2006-14. 7,977 vehicles / day use this stretch on average. There are 15,900 at peak (flea market). 1.2 miles is the maximum back-up.

The new plan includes one 12' lane in each direction. There will be two 10' shoulders. Rumble strips will be installed at the shoulders and center strip. There will be designated lanes for left turns and passing lanes at Village Green Campground.

The Brimfield Committee urged creation of a designated 2 lane bike path substantially separate from traffic. This would connect the Riverview Trail (Sturbridge) with the Grand Trunk Trail (Brimfield). Dick has written a letter in support of this idea.

Last Green Valley is promoting events for May (similar to Walktober) under the title "Spring Outdoors!" If our canoe / kayak day goes well, we should consider inclusion next year.

The Brimfield 5 K will be Saturday, April 30th. Volunteers are always needed. Or consider walking or running yourself. The Brimfield Trail Association is writing a Norcross grant to resurface the 5K route.

The Holland workday could include spring clean up, finishing Old East Brimfield Road (1 Grader), and beginning the Community Center Fitness Course (1 loader, 1 grader, 1 dump truck).

Dick and Chris will lay out the course at the Center. Chris will talk to Paula Bak and Erin Evan, who chairs Friends of the Community Center, about coordinating volunteer efforts.

The Holland 5 K will be Saturday, May 21st. Dick will arrange to speak to the Running Club about the trail and the Brimfield 5 K.

The Canoe/Kayak the Quinebaug event was discussed We will need to coordinate transportation to make it a one-way ride. Vehicles can be parked at the landing while others stay with the kayaks and canoes. We will need to arrange to give people a ride back to the starting point. This can be coordinated that morning, but large passenger vehicles may be needed. Floatation devices will be required. We should meet at 9:00, if we want to have a 10:00 start.

The library is sponsoring a salamander story walk using Lake Siog Pass. It will be on April 10th, which is a Sunday, from 1:00 to 2:30. Meet at the trailhead parking lot.

Our Walktober ride is scheduled for Sunday, October 16th from 10-12. Dick will take care of the application process.

upcoming dates:

Sunday, April 10th: Salamander Walk

Wed., April 27th: our next meeting

Sat., April 30th: Brimfield 5 K

Sat., May 7th: Holland Work Day

Sat., May 21st: Holland 5K run

Sun., May 22nd: Kayak / canoe the Quinebaug

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

Richard Haller
Chairman / Secretary