

Post Pond Path Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes for March 11, 2010 (Approved 5/19/10)
Fire Station Training Room - 7pm

In attendance: Pete Mulvihill, Ben Hudson, Dave Celone, Jay Kelly, Ursula Slate

Meeting started 7:10pm.

- 1 Minutes from previous meeting on 2/25/10 circulated and approved.
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- 1 Discussion of progress made with property owners relevant to the project:
- 1 Pete M. reported that he spoke with Priscilla and Sam Power, who have two main concerns about the path: a) legal/property rights (adverse possession) and b) liability. Pete M. assured them that they could simply grant "at will permission" for the path to cross their land; permission that could be withdrawn at any time (i.e. no easement involved). As for liability concerns, Pete M mentioned to the Powers that NH has a strong tradition of upholding landowner rights in liability cases and that there has been no adjudication against land owners in such cases in NH. Pete M. said that he spoke with Colin Robinson about the Powers' concerns, and that Colin R. offered to discuss the issues with the Powers.
- 1 The committee is still waiting to hear back from Ed Gray re: Paul Killebrew's discussion with the Paolinos. The Paolino property (by their boathouse) is key and tricky to the project.
- 1 Jay Kelly said that liability is also a concern for Loch Lyme Lodge and expressed an interest in having warning signs posted in both directions for path users in that location.
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- 1 Discussion of strategies for getting the project done:
- 1 Ben Hudson reported that he'd been in the field and located a route for the path that would require minimal cutting. Dave Celone mentioned that Rus Hirschler had recommended joining the Upper Valley Trails Alliance, which would include a complimentary consulting visit from John Taylor (of the UVTA). The sub-committee made no plans to contact the UVTA, partly because all in attendance agreed that the planning, design, and construction of the path should be as low-impact, low-cost, and low-maintenance as possible. Dave C. suggested approaching the project in phases. Ben offered to speak with those he knows on the NH DOT road crew about adding fill to widen the west-side shoulder of Route 10, near the curve at the "no parking" area.
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- 1 Ben Hudson explained that no permitting is required from the NH DES if a simple (pedestrian) bridge is constructed from "top of bank to top of bank" when crossing a drainage (as opposed to culverts, which require permitting).
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- 1 Jay Kelly offered to research what would be involved with redirecting/relocating utility pole guy wires.
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- 1 Pete M. and Ben H agreed to walk the potential path route adjacent to Lovejoy property.
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Next meeting set: March 25th, 7pm, Town Offices Conference Room.

Meeting ended 8:15pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Ursula Slate 3/17/10

