

Sturbridge Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 09, 2010

Location: Center School, 2nd Floor main

Attendees: Randy Redetzke (RR)(Chairman), Doug Quigley (DQ), Pat McGarrah (PM), (Brandon Goodwin (BG) arrived 6:49)

Associate Attendees: Louie Berthiaume (LB), Richard Paradise (RP)

Absent: Steve Morris (SM)

Other Guests: Tom Chamberland ((TC) (PLAC/USACE) departed at 6:30), Fritz Reeves, Tom Ayau

6:05 PM call to order

- Chairman adjusted order of agenda as TC was unable to attend full meeting.
- Reviewed TC railing design for Bridge Crossing B. General agreement that the design would work. Construction to be so that the railing can be removed as a full piece so that when the bridge deck eventually needs replacement the impact is minimized. Scheduled a work evening for September 14, 2010 5:30 at EBL to prepare salvaged 4x4 timbers to be used in the rail construction. Remaining materials to be purchased. Oak planking to be stacked and covered for the winter.
- TC indicated that the RTMP RFP is not quite ready to go out. Final accounting coordination with town accountant is required. TC is working on this.
- TC advised that the Conservation Commission has approved the Bridge 7 modification using large concrete blocks for the footings in lieu of the timber mats. The bridge design has been reviewed by Jalbert Engineering and a maximum weight of 5 tons has been approved. This information to be forwarded to Mass Wild Life for final approval to proceed. Mass Wild Life also requires prior notification before proceeding. TC indicated that he would like to move forward on construction before the end of the month. RR cautioned that we must have Mass Wild Life concurrence before work can begin. TC indicated that the Conservation Commission did not approve the request to add a culvert to the swale that the new trail crosses downstream of bridge 7. TC to provide a drawing showing the required culvert length and resubmit to the Conservation Commission.
- TC advised that because of Federal Guidelines that the USACE operates under, the ribbon cutting on NPLD cannot include elected officials making announcements on federal land. It was hoped that we could announce the release of design funds for the next section of GTT construction.
- TC reported that there have been 14 unapproved Geo Caches installed on Leadmine Mt. and that an event was held without permission. This information has been forwarded to the Conservation Commission.
- TC departed
- Reviewed meeting minutes of July 8, 2010. PM motion: Motion to approve the minutes of July 8, 2010 as written, DQ second, Approved 3/0.
- BG arrived 6:49
- RR & RP provided an update on the last PLAC meeting. PLAC established term limits. Appointed officers. ORV letter to abutters has not gone out.
- RR reported no change in status on TEA grant or Morse agreement.
- RR reported that Mary Redetzke has created and placed the informational display at Savers Bank.

- RR & TC met with 4 WPI students and one staff member on 9/8/10. They were shown the River Lands projects and the Brimfield River Crossing. Students have 2 ½ weeks to determine the scope of work. At that time we should hear from them as to what project and to what extent they want to take on.
- PM suggested that maybe we could request permission from OSV to use their parking lot for the River Lands Stallion Hill Rd trailhead parking. General agreement that we should continue with the design option by the WPI students regardless of any OSV agreement. RR to discuss with PLAC.
- RR discussed the current status of the design work on the Trolley Line TLVG grant. Design is progressing and a package will be given to the Conservation Commission shortly. Waiting the Town Administration to finalize the grant receipt paperwork.
- RR described a conversation he had with William Hull CEO of Hull Forest Products in regard to the Hull land on the South West end of East Brimfield Lake. The land is currently leased to hunters and he did not seem receptive to disrupting this agreement as it generates revenue.
- Decided to have a work day on Oct 3, 2010 9:00 AM for construction of the Crossing B railing.
- RR reported that Jean Boubon has requested a report on trail activities so that she can submit to TLGV. RR to provide.
- Regional Trails is working on a list of projects needed for the GTT.
- General discussion on the need to move forward on the signage for Heins Farm.
- RP reported on the GTT sponsored T shirt status:
 - “Volunteer” style shirts remaining are 4 small, 1 med, 1 XL. There is \$60 in the fund. The bike raffle is planned for the Harvest Festival and currently has \$200.
- LB to approach Alex M of the STA to see about setting up a tent at Harvest Festival.
- Discussed different ways that email addresses could be solicited to add to our distribution list.
- PM indicated that there are a number of Walktober events in Sturbridge scheduled.
- Discussed purchase of back pack blower and miscellaneous tools. General agreement that RR should proceed.
- Make A Difference Day is October 23, 2010. RR solicited input on projects.
- Next meeting October 14, 2010 at Center School, 2nd Floor main 6:00PM.
- Adjourn 8:30 PM

Additional Documents:

Regional Trails projects List (draft)

Railing design hand sketch (draft)

Records maintained at Center Office Building Room 208