

Sturbridge Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 14, 2010

Location: Town Hall, 2nd Floor conference room

Attendees: Randy Redetzke (RR)(Chairman), Doug Quigley (DQ), (Brandon Goodwin (BG)

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

Absent: Steve Morris (SM), Pat McGarrah (PM)

Other Guests: Tom Chamberland ((TC) USACE) departed at 7:07), Fritz Reeves, Devon Ward (WPI), Walter Woodington (WPI), Dave Barnicle ((DB)(Conservation Commission))

6:06 PM call to order

- RR introduced WPI students Devon Ward and Walter Woodington who are currently providing design services on the River Lands parcel as part of their graduation project. Walter and Devon described the work that they plan to accomplish which includes parking lot design, culvert replacement and trail construction detail from Stallion Hill Rd to the gravel pit area. RR asked DB if the Conservation Commission had a culvert style preference.
- DB reminded the group that the Walktober events are currently going on.
- Motion by BG to approve the meeting minutes of September 9, 2010. 2nd RR, passed 3/0.
- RR reported on items from the last PLAC meeting. ORV letter has gone out. Spaho land off Farquhar Rd is being looked at for acquisition. Dave B indicated they may want Trails Committee to develop a trail on this property to the Quinebaug. OSV will not allow more than 3 cars to use their lot.
- TC reviewed the items on the trails status report for the committee. Specific comments include the need for the Town Administrator to complete the Morse agreement. Bridge 7 at CRC area needs a flood plane survey, Jalbert Engineering working on it.
- TC reported that the Old Growth Trail bridge is in poor shape and would not advise crossing with a vehicle. The foundation is failing and the bridge beams have rust through.
- Reviewed DCR November 2010 grant application as presented by TC.
- Motion by BG: Motion to move forward the DCR November 2010 grant request as written in conjunction with the Town of Brimfield and USACE. 2nd RR, Approved 3/0.
- TC departed 7:07
- Discussed the Arbutus Loop Trail problems in reaching ADA compliance. DQ & LB indicated that we may not be able to have the trail fully ADA compliant because of the terrain slope issues. They suggested that we go as far as we can but not do extensive work that disturbs the area causing a large cut.
- Committee discussed the desired width of trails and the need for ADA compliance. DQ suggested that not all trails should be 16 feet in total width and have a 10 foot finished surface. General agreement that most secondary trails would not be this wide. The Pond Loop Trail was cited as an example of a more typical design. RR indicated that the Grand Trunk Trail (GTT) needs to be consistent with the other sections of the GTT. DQ suggested that the GTT was somewhat different in that we are working on an established rail bed in many locations which will dictate the size.
- RP reported that the GTTB has \$75 in the T shirt fund. RR to contact Savers Bank to see if they have any objections in our purchasing volunteer T shirts with a portion of the 1910 grant.
- 7:55 RP, DW, WW departed
- RR reported that the RTMP RFQ was at the Town Administrator waiting action.

- RR requested confirmation that a post hole digger should be purchased with funds from the tool account. All agreed – RR to purchase.
- Discussed Make a Difference Day Projects – Friday 10-22-2010, DG & LB are going to replace the sign on the Old Growth Trail. Saturday 10-23-2010 TC and Butch Jackson are installing the pipe gate at the River Lands Stallion Hill entrance. Sunday 10-24-2010 RR will contact individuals to see if he can set up a work party to begin removal of the steel frame diving platform on the Old Growth Trail. DB suggested that we should block off the two bridges on the Arbutus Park Trail to keep people on the designated trail.
- DB reported that he is trying to get bike lanes marked on Hwy 131 by the state.
- DB suggested that we need an overall map that shows trail locations. RR agreed and indicated that we have trouble producing this because of the software required. BG indicated that he believes the GTTB will be purchasing the required software with a grant.
- DB requested that the Trails Committee submit suggested names for the property currently called Leadmine Mt. General agreement from the committee that this is something they would like to do.
- Adjourn 8:40 PM

Additional Documents:

Monthly Trails Status Report as of 10/12/10

Draft DCR Grant Application

Records maintained at Center Office Building Room 208