

Sturbridge Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: April 12, 2012
Location: Center School Office, 2nd small conference room
Attendees: Randy Redetzke (RR) (Chairman), Richard Paradise (RP), Pat McGarrah (PM), Doug Quigley (DQ),

Associate

Attendees: Louie Berthiaume (LB), Tom Chamberland ((TC) USACE), Fritz Reeve (FR)
Absent: Brandon Goodwin (BG), Meg Germain, Dave Vadnais (DV)
Guests: Denise Lachapelle

7:03 PM call to order / quorum check

- Leadmine Mt tree clearing - Northern Tree has been working for 2nd day removing hazardous trees. This is being paid for by a budget item that Erin Jacque has.
- Trolley Line DCR grant – work on the extension to East Brimfield Dam is almost complete except for some final fine gravel and shoulder work. Work should be under the grant budget and may allow for the purchase of some additional gravel. The match in kind for the grant has been fully met. DPW supplied base material and trucking as part of the need to reduce the stock pile at the town maintenance yard.
- Denise Lachapelle reported that with RP, they have completed the gravel additions to the pond loop trail. Denise also reported that the gravel stock pile at the Heins parking area is almost gone. RR expressed thanks to them for this work.
- General discussion on the problem with the culvert being plugged at the Heins Farm Pond. Discussed removing the culvert and creating a swale instead. This would help delineate the property line and keep people from wondering off town property. Concern that there may be some new beaver activity in the area. This will need to be discussed with the Conservation Commission.
- TC reported that he was waiting on confirmation that the DCR Education grant paperwork has been sent by the Town Administrator back to the commonwealth.
- RR provided a copy of two un-official maps of the LMT area and an email from a local resident that maybe willing to help prepare a more useable map. DQ will make contact. RR expressed for the need to continue to push this effort as he is asked frequently about maps for the property and that the committee has been negligent in pushing this item. Specifically on Leadmine Mt there has been hesitation to move forward because the trails are not officially open or maintained but because of the use they are getting we need to create something more useable. RR suggested a state park type map would be sufficient.
- HPP TEA Grant – Not all money is currently projected to be spent. PM and BG are investigating how we can extend the trail to better utilize the funds available. TC indicated that Mass DOT maybe looking for alternatives rather than Mass DOT constructing. This could pose a significant issue as this would be a new approach with the USACE. TC reported that we will not have to have any additional USACE wetlands review for the trail because there are no wet lands being affected. A survey of Farquhar Rd is now required to determine the right of way. CME has asked for \$1800 to complete this work. This is needed also to determine what can be done with extending the trail West towards 84.

- RTMPSC – TC reported that June 7, 2012 is the hearing for the final draft of the master plan with the BOS and Conservation Commission. The chair encouraged participation by the Trails Committee.
- Heins locator posts – 8 of 21 posts are ready for installation on April 21, LB & PM will get the remainder prepared.
- DQ will make temporary repair to lexan in the CRC area kiosk.
- Approval of meeting minutes for March 8, 2012 were deferred until the next meeting.
- Committee agreed to secure the domain name “SturbridgeTrails”. PM believes Rob will host for us.
- Northern Tree will be working with a bucket truck and crew on hazardous tree removal on the Arbutus Park Trail this Saturday April 14, 2012. In addition, Northern Tree will be providing a donator of a forwarder and operator to haul out the tree and remove bridges 3,4 & 8. They will also set the poles and pads for bridge 8 with the forwarder. RR & TC indicated they would work with Northern Tree and would be happy to have anyone on the committee who would like to assist.
- RR reviewed planning details for April 21. 2012 work day. Heins locator sign installation, CRC directional signs, and debris removal are top priorities. In addition the squaring and preparation of bridge 8 poles and pads will be ready.
- No items from EJ
- Adjourn 8:46 PM

Additional Documents:

- sign in sheet

Records maintained at Center Office Building Room 208