

Sturbridge Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: 2/9/12

Location: Center School Office Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Attendees: Brandon Goodwin (BG), Doug Quigley (DQ), Richard Paradise (RP)

Associate Attendees: Louie Berthiaume (LB), Dave Vadenais (DV), Fritz Reeves (FR), Meg Germain (MG)

Absent: Randy Redetzke (RR)

Other Guests: David Barnicle, Dave Peterkin

- Call to order at 7:04 p.m.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: Approval of January Meeting Minutes (MG) – the group approves the minutes. Ronald makes a motion to accept, Brandon seconds the motion. Vote 4/0

Conflict of Interest Law – Pat McGarrah to complete

Tree Clearing update – The group cleared trees last Sunday with Northern Tree who provided a bucket truck and a chipper and a tractor. The loop on CRC was cleared of all hanging trees, some branches were not chipped. Worked from 9-3 and the trail is clear. Northern tree should be alerted to all the work days we are having because they did not know about the last work day till the night before. The trail committee needs to formally notify Northern Tree Company of all work day - suggested by David Barnicle.

Count the rings contest -There was a tie and one winner was picked and the prize was given

Hamant Brook culvert Removal update – The culvert is still there, Greg needs to complete.

Trolley Line Culvert update (TC) –The pipe was dropped but no work done yet.

Trolley Line Extension DCR Grant update (TC) - Has not been completed yet, the town has commenced work on it as well as the ACE.

Trolley Line Grant closeout – no update

Bog Bridge approach – Needs to wait till the ground thaws out in the spring. Richard is going to pre-position the gravel. The group discussed possibly of adding a section to the Bog Bridge, David Barnicle will bring this up at the next Con Com meeting. May need only 10 feet but David will propose up to 30 feet.

FY2013 Funding Requests – no update

Education Grant – This will be at the end of April, however the date is not solidified.

HPP TEA Grant Update – Preparing for the 25% design review.

Shepherd Parcel canoe launch – no update

Recreational Trails Master Plan Steering Committee (RTMPSC) Report (TC) – Had a meeting two weeks ago, survey deadline was extended to February 17th so that more input could be garnered from residents. Committee members are encouraged to share it with any group or individuals they can think of. The results of the survey will be in by the March meeting, and then some decisions can be made. There is a place to leave comments and one resident who is in a wheelchair asked to have a wheelchair accessible trail in town. This brings up the issue that we need to do more marketing because people are not aware of the ADA trails in town. We are going to put a Heins Farm brochure at Westville. Look into getting a sign up for getting people on a trails mailing list on the town's main homepage. The committee agrees that we need to get the trails information on the town website – Chamber of Commerce and Sturbridge tourism website – were we do not currently have a presence. David Barnicle proposed setting up a Marketing Subcommittee, with MG as the Chairperson, for the purpose of pursuing trails marketing. Doug made a motion to establish this motion and Randy seconded this. Unanimous vote.

Correspondence from Don Miller & David Holand – no update

Annual Report – Randy submitted it, no other update.

Prisoner Release Program – no info.

Conservation Agent Items – The ConCom did a site visit to the bridges on the CRC property and there was unanimous approval of the plans, all set for 2012.

Old Business – Bridge Seven did not have the final screws put in.

New Business – The Easement for CRC property from OSV was approved. The Easement will be passed on in the deed of the landowner so that the easement is permanent. The OSV will not allow for parking on the easement. Randy makes a motion to approve of the amendment as written. Richard seconds. Unanimous. Vote 4/0.

RP – The culvert at the Heins Farm pond keeps getting plugged up; Richard would like to put a bridge in there so that the problem will not persist. David will need to make a proposal to the ConCom for the approval of this. Richard will speak to TC and have him draw up a scetch for the ConCom.

RR – There is a group in town that is looking to dissolve the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). Randy wants the group to be cognizant of this and realize that information will be floating around.

The order for signs has been completed and the signs are coming in. The Tantasqua High School kids are going to put the signs up for the Committee.

Next Meeting -

7:00p.m. 2nd Thursday March – Sturbridge Trails Committee