Minutes Pathways Committee March 22, 2010

Members present: Jim Eisenhower, Jim Nupp, Barbara Laverick, John Adams; Rob Houseman; Kathy Barnard

Jim Eisenhower called the meeting to order at 3:00PM.

Barbara Laverick made a motion to approve the February 8, 2010 minutes. John Adams seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

Jim Eisenhower reported for the Treasurer that there is approximately \$7,000 in the Pathways account at WEDCO.

Rob Houseman reported that Timber and Stone (Josh Ryan) had been selected to do the work on the trails at Sewall Woods and Abenaki. A Contract Agreement had been prepared and reviewed by Town Counsel, Jim Eisenhower and George Vanderheiden. Rob has assumed the role of project manager. There are two parts to the project – one is on Town property and the other is not.

The part of the project on Town property will need to go to the Board of Selectmen so the BOS will be aware of the time frame and an update on the project. This should be done in April.

The contract is contingent on obtaining adequate funding and could begin the end of August 2010. Josh Ryan has this time available and will let us know if he is awarded another contract that may conflict with the end of August time frame.

In order to begin construction the end of August, we would need State permits. We would need to submit to the State by April 30, 2010 in order to have the permits in place by the end of August. The permitting cost is \$25,000 to \$30,000; therefore fund raising is critical to meeting this timetable.

Rob will have another discussion with Josh Ryan to determine if he will hold the price he has given Pathways until the next construction season.

Rob Houseman then reported on the Transportation Enhancement Grant for the downtown area. The Town ranked high in the region, but not high enough in the State ranking. This grant proposal will be revised, clarified and resubmitted for the next round. More letters of support will be submitted with the next grant request. The project area was from Sewall Road to Pickering Corner and included Railroad Avenue, Depot and Central Avenue. It included upgrades to sidewalks, bump outs for pedestrian safety, improved crosswalks, bike racks, improved signage, share the road symbols and signage for motorists and bicyclists.

Jim Eisenhower reported on the fund raising campaign. Some calls have already been made and some funds have been committed to the project. This effort will start in April. There was a discussion about the type of information that will be sent to prospective donors. There was also a discussion about the Pathways Discussion Point document. This will be a very useful tool during the fund raising effort.

Jim reported that Pathways now has letterhead, thank you notes, envelopes, pledge cards and the brochure.

Jim Eisenhower reported that he had met with the Flaggs regarding access to Sewall Woods and the use of the parking area (on the Flaggs property) for the construction period. They have almost reached an agreement on a Memorandum of Understanding. This agreement (an easement) would continue into the future and would run with the land, if the land were to be sold.

Jim Nupp will have a discussion about proceeding with the web site for Pathways with Ralph. The design will cost about \$800.

Jim Eisenhower indicated that Pathways needs a publicity chairman. We should try to get articles in to the paper every couple weeks during the fund raising campaign. Please contact Jim if you are interested in this project.

Kathy Barnard reported that the Town has received a Safe Routes To School grant. These funds will be used for improving sidewalks from Carpenter School to Foss Field and from Crescent Lake School along McManus Drive to South Main Street.

Kathy Barnard also reported that Wolfeboro Bike and Walk Day is scheduled for May 14, 2010.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2010 at 3:00PM

The meeting adjourned at 4:15PM.

Submitted by Kathy Barnard March 24, 2010