

Minutes
Pathways Committee
April 21, 2010

Members present: George Vanderheiden, Art Slocum, Mal Blodget, Barbara Laverick, Tom O'Brien, Kathy Barnard

George Vanderheiden called the meeting to order at 3:04PM

There was a motion made to approve the March 22, 2010 minutes. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor of the motion.

Mal Blodget gave the Treasurer's report. He reported that there is a balance of \$27,561 in the checking account and some additional pledges will soon be deposited. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report.

George stated that Pathways has the necessary funds to obtain the required permits for the trail construction so that process will be started. Pathways will need to contact Timber and Stone by mid July to tell Timber and Stone that Pathways has the necessary funds to start the construction on the trails. If we do not have the required funding, we may need to renegotiate the contract with Timber and Stone and postpone the work until 2011.

George reported that the April 7, 2010 meeting with the Board of Selectmen went well. The Selectmen were pleased with the progress made by Pathways.

Kathy Barnard reported that plans are underway for Bike and Walk Day which is scheduled for May 14, 2010.

Further George reported that he and Jim Eisenhower will do a Community TV interview. They will do the interview at Sewall Woods and the Cotton Valley Trail. The Cotton Valley Trail will be used to show what the trails will look like in Sewall Woods and Abenaki after the construction. A DVD of the presentation will be obtained and used for fund raising purposes.

There will be an article about Pathways in the April 22, 2010 Granite State News.

Jim Eisenhower has executed a final Memorandum of Understanding with the Flaggs to use the Sewall Woods parking lot (which is on the Flaggs' property).

George also reported that he and Jim have called and met with some potential donors. Some of the donors have asked if we are pursuing private grants. The Committee agreed that Pathways should develop a list of possible grant opportunities. Kathy Barnard will develop a list of funding possibilities after Bike and Walk Day.

Tom O'Brien discussed the fund raising plan. He said the initial push is to large donors. The next phase is the community campaign (smaller donors) which is just as important to the success of the project. Tom said we might want to consider a community event to get young people involved. This would be the opportunity for the community to buy into the project. We could also consider a raffle, which results in 100% profit. We could raffle a canoe, kayak or bike. We should have further discussions about an event and plan to hold it after mid June. Pathways Committee members need to recruit people to help make calls requesting donation. This will be done during the next two months. We should not go public with our fund raising campaign until we have 40% of our goal.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2010 at 3:00PM at the Community Center.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45PM.

Submitted by
Kathy Barnard
April 25, 2010