

Town of Lebanon
Rails to Trails Committee
Monday May 11, 2009

MINUTES
with revisions 6/8/09

Members present: Donna Koenig, Peter Gandelman, Naomi Davidson, Mike Lambert, Mary Withey, Nusie Halpine, Christine Witkowski
Alternates: Walter Miller (Stefan Szafarek), Bruce Sievers (Kent Sleath)
Members absent: Kent Sleath, Stefan Szafarek

1.0 Opening Business

1.1 Call to Order: 6:34 P.M.

1.2 Reading and Acceptance of Minutes of April 13, 2009

Naomi noted that under Section 3.2 Correspondence Received, *Donna* was designated to respond to the request to submit a 10 year plan, with input from Naomi. *Nusie made a motion that the minutes be accepted as read. Mike seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Any revisions?*

2.0 Old Business

2.1 Status of Grants

Naomi reported that she was verbally informed that our grant would be approved in full, but processing delays mean that we will not receive official notice until at least the end of this month. The grant covers the remaining sections excluding Section 5, for which the DEP will apply for the money needed. This section will required special handling due to property boundary issues. The grant for Section 5 was not approved for this year, but DEP will reapply next year.

2.2 Status of Spending/Reimbursement of Grant Money

No money spent and none reimbursed.

2.3 Section 2

2.3.1 Work done by DEP

DEP will begin repairs next week, including cleaning out the blocked pipe and installing a culvert pipe.

2.4 Sections 3 & 4

2.4.1 Work done by town

Tom met with Donna to review work done so far. More work is needed on both the Chesbro ramp and Cook Hill ramp (poor drainage there still needs to be addressed). Work is on track be completed by June 1.

2.4.2 Revision of RFP

Additional revisions and clarifications in the bid specifications were discussed. Naomi confirmed that DEP will provide gates or if not received in time, DEP will install them; gate installation needs to be a separate line item on the bid sheet in case the DEP does not receive them in time.

The bid specifications will be posted on the DAS (Department of Administrative Services, State of Connecticut) website by Wed. 5/27/09 with a mandatory pre-bid site walk on Wed. 6/10/09. Letters will be sent to contractors who bid on previous sections.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Reappointment of Kent, Mary, and Walter

Kent, Mary and Walter were all reappointed at the most recent Selectmen's meeting. Patti Handy (Administrative Assistant for Town of Lebanon) requested that for the committee keep track of and notify her about its future reappointments.

3.2 Correspondence Received

None received.

3.3 Booth at Lebanon Fair and Farmer's Market

Naomi reported that we can arrange for a booth at the Farmer's Market for any Saturday. We will need volunteers to do this, and additional display materials. Christine offered to design some signage. Mike will get a price on enlarging and printing the map in the color brochure. Naomi will check to see if an enlargement can be printed from the original document on the large format printer at DEP Hartford.

Peter also suggested that we place a table at the Hebron Route 85 entrance to the Airline Trail to alert hikers there to our completed sections. It was decided that we would forgo having a booth at the Lebanon Fair this year and focus our efforts instead on Route 85 and the Farmer's Market.

3.4 Walktober Event

Christine and Peter walked a portion of Sections 1 and 2 and decided that we would use Section 1 for the Walktober walk, with a history theme similar to the walk two years ago. Monday October 12 (Columbus Day) was requested for the walk but this has not yet been confirmed by Walktober organizers.

3.5 Bridge on Section 6

Nusie and Walter reviewed the bridge vandalism. DEP has already repaired the damage and DEP police has been alerted to the problem.

3.6 No Child Left Inside Great Park Pursuit

The Airline Trail will be the site of an upcoming Great Parks Pursuit activity. Volunteers are needed to help with stations along the trail. If interested, contact Naomi.

4.0 Motion to Adjourn

Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 PM. Mary seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Witkowski
Secretary