

Town of Lebanon
Rails to Trails Committee
Monday February 8, 2010
MINUTES

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

1.0 Opening Business

1.1 Call to Order: 6:36 P.M.

1.2 Reading and Acceptance of Minutes of January 11, 2010

Donna noted an error in section 1.3; "Windham Materials" should read "Willard's Lumber & Hardware." ***Bruce made a motion that the minutes of January 11, 2010 be accepted as amended. Naomi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

2.0 Old Business

2.1 Status of Grants

No change.

2.2 Status of Spending/Reimbursement of Grant Money

\$10,094.39 deducted for stone dust on Section 3 (1.15 miles). Naomi will seek to have the town reimbursed for stonedusting based on volunteer matching.

2.3 Discussion of Section 4 and Gravel Pit

Trees cleaned up along Section 4. Tom will smooth out tire furrows left along trail. Material donated by Susan Coutu was collected from gravel pit; estimate value of materials \$4200. Naomi will check to see if this counts towards matching funds.

2.4 Revisions for Bid Specifications, Bid Sheets, and Contracts

Christine has not yet made changes discussed at the January meeting but will do so prior to the next meeting and email changes to committee members. Naomi emailed draft bid specifications to the committee for comment; no comments received yet. Will wait to finalize bid specifications until end March/early April after Spring thaw to see where fill is needed and make measurements.

2.5 Discussion of Remediation on Sections 6 & 7

Tom cleared wood chips from ditches in Section 6 Kingsley parking area. We will have contractor bring in fill. Willimantic River will not be decked over by summer when we expect to complete Section 7 so will need a barrier. Donna will check on this with Scott Dawley (DEP).

2.6 Discussion of Parking Area at Route 207

Naomi reported that Tony Cieri at DOT responded to her query about the danger at the Route 207 Parking Area. The DOT will look at this area and prepare a formal response in the spring.

2.7 Update on Eagle Scout Project

Donna reported at Derek Perkins turned 18 last month so would no longer be eligible

to do an Eagle Scout project. Laura has not heard from him. Naomi will contact a local scout troop to see if they might be interested in the signage project.

2.8 DEP Survey

Naomi reported that the plan to survey the Cook Hill Rd. and Fornal properties has been submitted for signatures at DEP. When approved, the survey will go out for bid and will probably take a couple of months to complete. One concern regarding the Fornal property is how to keep the gate locked while allowing access for the property owner. Naomi will look into options for this.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Correspondence Received

None received.

3.2 Re-appointment of Members

Donna spoke to Stefan about resigning from the committee, allowing Bruce to move up to full member from his current position as alternate. Stefan will write a letter of resignation to be submitted to Joyce. Nusie, Mike, and Laura (alternate) are all willing to continue as members.

Walt made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectman that Nusie Halpine and Mike Lambert be reappointed as full members of the committee, that Bruce Sievers be appointed as a full member to fill the vacated seat of Stefan Szafarek, and that Laura Cascio be reappointed as an alternate member. Naomi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.3 Fire Department Request

The Lebanon Fire Department is concerned about being able to get onto the trail in case of an accident and asked for lock boxes at each gate. Scott Dawley of DEP did not agree that this is necessary, instead suggesting providing the fire department with 2 keys for each gate, and if necessary, breaking of the lock in case of emergency.

3.4 Thank you note to Susan Coutu

Donna will send a formal thank you note to Susan Coutu for the generous donation of material from her gravel pit for the trail

3.5 June Bird Walk

Nusie reported that the Bird Walk on Section 4 will be held on the first Saturday in June.

Donna reported receiving a call about submitting a walk for Walktober. Christine had received an email about this also and will check on the deadline.

4.0 Motion to Adjourn

Christine made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM. Nusie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Witkowski
Secretary