

Town of Lebanon
Rails to Trails Committee
Monday March 14, 2011

MINUTES

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

1.0 Opening Business

1.1 Call to Order: 6:32 P.M.

1.2 Reading and Acceptance of Minutes of December 13, 2010 meeting:

Nusie made a motion that the minutes of the December 13, 2010 meeting be accepted with the correction on sec. 3.1. Remove the second “not” in the fourth sentence. Naomi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.0 Old Business

2.1 Status of Spending/Reimbursement of Grant Money:

Checks were sent out to Bender's for the roller rental and to Windham Materials for the stone dust on Dec. 14, 2010.

The town received reimbursement for these checks on Jan, 6, 2011.

At this time we have \$83,607.00 left in our grant.

2.2 Update on DEP survey on sections 4 and 5:

The survey company has completed its work and markings have been placed on the trail. As soon as possible, Martha Frankel from the DEP's Land Management Dept. and Donna will meet with Brian the DEP surveyor to go over the markings.

Martha has already spoken to Jay Fornal and Lorraine Andrews about the findings of the survey that involve their boundaries. Mr. Fornal was informed that trees will be removed from the trail property at Route 87. Martha will walk the Andrews property with Ms. Andrews as soon as the ground dries out.

As soon as these items have been addressed, a meeting will be held to discuss the options for the work to be done on section 5.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Bird Walk:

Nusie has arranged for A Bird Walk on National Trails Day, June 11, 2011. The walk will start at Route 87 and go toward Chesboro Bridge Rd. The walk information has already been posted on the CT Walk website and Nusie will contact the Lebanon Life and the Lebanon Town Hall website for further advertising.

3.2 Town Website update:

Naomi has made the updates to the town website to bring the information concerning sections of trail completed up to date.

3.3 Walktober deadline April 1, 2011:

The committee discussed the options that might provide a showcase for the trail. We have done nature walks, historical and geological walks and a bike ride. The walks have a much greater turn out than the bike ride.

A suggestion was made that a photographic lesson and walk might be a good choice. It is a great time of year for the colors; we have the marsh, the bridges, Lake Williams and many other beautiful areas.

Donna will contact Stan Malcolm to see if he might consider leading a Photographic Trek through a section of our trail. If he is not available, maybe he could give us some ideas of who might help us. Donna will register the Walktober event.

3.4 Stan Malcolm honored:

Stan Malcolm has been honored for his fine work by the American Trails National Symposium. He offers over 4000 photos of the Air Line Trail on his website: www.performance-vision.com/airline/. He is a wonderful advocate for our trail.

3.5 New Worksheet for Committee hours:

Naomi has created a new worksheet to be used for our work on the trail. This will better meet the requirements of the federal regulations. Naomi will send to all members of the committee a copy of this new document.

3.6 Reappointment of members:

The terms for the following committee members; Naomi Davidson, Peter Gandelman, Kent Sleath, Mary Withey, Christine Witkowski, Walter Miller and Donna Koenig will expire in May. All members who have been contacted wish to be reinstated. Donna will speak to Kent about his desire to continue on the committee.

Naomi made a motion that all members who have agreed to stay on the committee have their names submitted to the board of selectmen for reinstatement. Christine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Donna will submit the request for reinstatement to the Board of Selectmen

4.0 Motion to Adjourn

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Koenig, Chairman