

Town of Lebanon
Rails to Trails Committee
Monday September 12, 2011
MINUTES

Members present: Donna Koenig, Nusie Halpine, Naomi Davidson, Mary Withey and Peter Gandelman

Alternates:

Members absent: Laura Cascio, Mike Lambert, Bruce Sievers, Walt Miller and Christine Witkowski

1.0 Opening Business

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

1.2 Welcome to Guests: None present

1.2 Reading and Acceptance of Minutes of July 11, 2011 meeting:

Naomi made a motion that the minutes of the July 11, 2011 be accepted as read. Nusie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.0 Old Business

2.1 Status of Spending/Reimbursement of Grant Money:

There have been no changes in this account.

Naomi has submitted a grant application for \$155,600.00 to the DEEP. These monies would be used to complete section 5 as well as repairs to the remaining sections. If monies become available we will be in position to be considered for this funding. Notification of awarded grants will be made in the spring.

2.2 Update on DEP discussions on section 5:

There has been no response from Lorraine Andrews since the DEEP sent her a letter telling her to remove the animals from state property and to remove all encroachments.

Deb Corcoran, DEEP Engineer has not submitted her plan for the improvements to section 5 as yet.

Donna contacted Tom Conley to ask that the Town Crew mow the edges of this section.

2.3 Signage on trail:

Naomi reported Dave Buckley has not yet been able to provide the signage for our sections of trail. He will have it done as soon as possible. Naomi will check next month to see if there is any progress on this.

2.4 Storm Damage:

Donna reported that 16 trees had come down during the storm on the trail. Various committee members have been working to remove the trees and debris from the trail surface.

Naomi and Nat cut up and removed numerous smaller trees. Other trees have been removed from sections 1 and 6.

Other committee members as well as the public have been removing trail debris.

There are still some large trees on the trail. Donna has requested help from the Town Crew. If no action takes place within the next week, she will contact the DEEP to see if they can remove the trees. At this time the trail is completely passable except some smaller trees on section 7 near the river.

2.5 Requests for work for the Town:

Donna has met with Tom again. She requested that he sign up for the Flail Mower from WINCOG to mow the trail edges. She also repeated requests for the crosswalks to be painted and the crossing signs installed. Additionally she asked that the side of section 5 be mowed to prepare for construction and that the larger trees from the storm be removed.

When Donna again meets with Tom she will ask about the possibility of chipping along the trail and some sort of erosion control on the ramps to prevent stone dust from being washed away. Naomi will ask Deb Corcoran of DEEP Engineering about the erosion control.

2.6 Plantings on Trail:

Peter will contact Pride's Corner to ask if they would be willing to donate some plants for the trail. It was felt that we would not be ready to plant anything this fall, however members will look at individual sections of the trail to decide where good planting sites exist and what type would grow there.

2.7 CL&P power lines:

Kent brought a mailing to Donna which explained the proposed additional high power lines which will be crossing the trail on section 6.

2.8 Trail Brochures:

Naomi will continue to try to contact the Colchester Recreation Department about revisions and additional printing of the trail brochures.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Quarterly Report:

A discussion was held to determine what information should be included in the quarterly report that is due at the end of the month. We will include the grant application and the storm clean-up.

3.2 New Terms:

Donna reported that The Board of Selectmen had extended Naomi and Peter's terms to end in 2014. This was done to correct an error that had too many of the members' terms ending together.

3.3 October Meeting:

Donna reminded all members that our October meeting will be on Oct. 3, 2011 at the Community Center.

4.0 Motion to Adjourn

Mary made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. Nusie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Koenig, Chairman