

Town of Lebanon  
Rails to Trails Committee  
Monday January 9, 2012  
**MINUTES**

Members present: Donna Koenig, Nusie Halpine, Mary Withey, Mike Lambert, Bruce Sievers and Mark Fitton

Members absent: Peter Gandelman, Naomi Davidson, Laura Cascio, Walt Miller and Christine Witkowski

Guests: Cheryl Gardner

### **1.0 Opening Business**

1.1 Call to Order: 6:37 P.M.

1.2 Welcome of new committee member:

Mark Fitton was introduced and welcomed as our newest committee member. His term will run until May of 2014.

1.3 Reading and Acceptance of Minutes of November 14, 2011 meeting:

Mary noted that section 2.6 should read **invasiveness** rather than evasiveness.

**Bruce made a motion that the minutes of the  
November 14, 2011 be accepted with the above correction.  
Mike 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.

2.2 Update on DEP discussions on section 5:

Beth Brothers from DEEP has meet with Lorraine Andrews. She did not make any headway when she asked Ms. Andrews to remove the animals from the trail. There will be more meetings at the DEEP offices to determine the next action that will be taken.

Committee members felt that we needed to start clearing section 5 so that it will be ready for improvements. It was decided that **Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 8:30AM**, we will meet at the trail crossing on Village Hill Rd. to begin clearing the debris and cutting trees that need to be removed.

2.3 Signage on trail:

Donna contacted Dave Buckley from DEEP about the requesting road crossing signs. Evidentially the initial paperwork was lost. Dave again issued the proper work order for our signs. Dave notified Donna at the end of December that the

signs were ready. Donna requested that the DEEP install them. Dave said he would look for posts and see if they could be installed before the ground froze.

#### 2.4 Work done by DEEP:

Dave Buckley did mention that his crew had been out on the trail to remove trees after the storms. He hopes to send them back for further clean-up.

#### 2.5 Work done by the Town:

The Town Crew has painted two crosswalks. The Chesbro Bridge crosswalk was re-painted and a crosswalk at Village Hill was put in.

#### 2.6 Work being done by committee members:

Mike has been out with his tractor to blow and the leaves off the trail. Walt is continuing to build a retaining wall at the gate to the entrance to section 3. Donna and her husband worked on the ditches on section 7 to cut up and remove all of the fallen limbs.

Mike requested that Donna check with the Town to see if he can get replacement for the fuel he uses as he removes leaves and drags the trail. He is willing to donate his time and equipment, however, fuel is very expensive.

**Mark made a motion that the committee provide re-imbursement to Mike for the fuel he uses while work on the trail. Bruce seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Donna will check with Tom to see if Mike would be able to go to the Town Garage and refill his tanks. This amount would be used on the Town's match.

#### 2.7 Plantings on Trail:

We will put aside any discussion on the plantings until the spring. Mary will speak to Pride's Corners to see what plants might be available. Committee members are asked to continue to think of good settings for the plantings.

### **3.0 New Business**

#### 3.1 Quarterly Report:

The Quarterly Report was made available to committee members and will be forwarded to the DEEP.

#### 3.2 Lebanon Life article:

The proposed article for the Lebanon Life was presented and corrections were suggested. After revisions, the article will be submitted for publication.

#### 3.3 Report on the Eastern CT Trails meeting:

Donna gave a brief report on the trail meeting she had attended. A good deal of the meeting dealt with the East Coast Greenway and the signage necessary for this summer's ride that will pass through this area.

Donna was asked to give an update to the status of our section of the trail. The volunteers from Lebanon were recognized for all their hard work. It was noted that the trail is complete to the river and is waiting for Windham's section to be completed.

3.4 Trails Day plans:

Nusie reported that the Trail Day this year is on June 2 at 8:00AM. She has yet to determine which area would be the best to visit. Registration will be submitted by January 31, 2012.

3.5 Re-appointment of members:

Committee members; Nusie Halpine, Mike Lambert, Bruce Sievers and Laura Cascio all come up for re-appointment this May. All members present indicated a desire to continue on the committee. Donna will call Laura to see what she wishes to do. At our next meeting, we will act on these requests.

3.6 Cancellation of February's meeting:

Because we have no pressing business and that we will meet on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> for a Work Day. **It was decided to cancel our regularly scheduled Feb. meeting.**

**4.0 Motion to Adjourn**

**Mary made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. Mike seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Donna Koenig, Chairman