

Town of Lebanon
Rails to Trails Committee
Monday March 12, 2012

MINUTES

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

1.0 Opening Business

1.1 Call to Order: 6:30pm

1.2 Welcoming of guests – no guests in attendance

1.2 Reading and Acceptance of Minutes of Jan. 9, 2012 meeting:

Nusie made a motion that the minutes of the Jan. 9, 2012 meeting be accepted. Mark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.0 Old Business

2.1 Status of Spending/Reimbursement of Grant Money:

No new spending.

2.2 Updates concerning Section 5:

- Another letter sent to Ms. Andrews telling her to remove the animals and encumbrances by Feb 23rd.
- Ms. Andrews sent a letter to DEEP and Joyce Okonuk, asking for help as she feels she is not able to pay for fencing.
- Meeting held with Joyce Okonuk, Donna Koenig and Ms. Andrews.
- Attempts to obtain monies for fencing included contacting the Farm Bureau, the State Dept. of Agriculture and Phil Chester. The first two efforts did not pan out. Phil is continuing to look into it.
- Naomi reported that she had discussed issues with Lori Gianatti from DEEP and as soon as the cows are removed from the trail that DEEP is ready to move to perform improvements to Section 5 (trail would be ready for stone dusting)

2.3 Signage on Trail: DEEP has installed signage on Cook Hill, Village Hill, and Kingsley Roads.

2.4 Work Town has done:

Town crew has been cutting downed trees and clearing ditches and chipping brush.

2.5 Plantings on Trail

- Discussion regarding selection on non-invasive and deer resistant plants
- Asked if list of sections of the trail and individuals who had identified that they would work on that section could be sent out to committee members
- Plan would be to develop proposal this spring for submission to Prides Corner

- Discussed if possibly could involve Scouts in planting project once plants are selected

2.6 Reappointment of Committee members.

- Nusie Halpine, Mike Lambert and Bruce Sievers have all agreed to continue to serve on the committee.
- Laura Cascio will not be able to serve for another term.

2.7 Reimbursement to Mike Lambert for fuel

- Donna spoke to Tom and he agreed that Mike could replace the fuel used on the trail for blowing and dragging from the town pumps. He would count this toward the town's match.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Walktober Sign up

- Discussion regarding ideas for Walktober even included possibly focusing on the water/hydrology around the trail, and/or the stonework associated with the culverts along the trail
- Nusie will contact Robert Thorenson to see if he might be available to discuss the culverts/stonework along our section of the trail

3.2 Bird Walk – Nusie reported that the Bird Walk will be on June 2nd at 8am and will be on Section 1 Rt. 207 trail crossing.

3.3 Rails to Trails Pot Luck – Mike Lambert suggested that the committee host a Pot Luck dinner at the Lambert's in the afternoon of the June 2nd Trail Walk. The Committee members present felt this was a great idea. Mary Withey will coordinate food for the event.

3.4 Naomi reported that she had received a copy of the newsletter from the Conservation Commission and in response had sent an e-mail to Jan Fittner to encourage her to include information about the airline trail in upcoming newsletters.

4.0 Motion to Adjourn

Bruce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. Naomi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Withey, Vice-Chairman