

Town of Lebanon Rails to Trails Committee

Monday September 14, 2015

MINUTES

Members present: Donna Koenig, Mary Withey, Naomi Davidson, Nusie Halpine, Mike Lambert, Peter Gandelman and Bruce Sievers

Members absent: Walt Miller, Mark Fitton and Art Wallace

1.0 Opening Business

1.1 Call to Order: 6:27 P.M.

1.2 Welcome to Guests: none

1.3 Reading and Acceptance of Minutes of May 11, 2015 meeting:

Mary made a motion that the minutes of the May 11, 2015 be accepted as read. Bruce seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.0 Old Business

2.1 Updates on Kiosk:

Eben has finished the kiosk. The map and pictures were installed as a final step. Donna has contacted Brandon Handfield to request that some large stones be placed in front of the kiosk to protect it.

2.2 Benches:

The benches are all in good condition and seem to be getting a lot of use.

2.3 NU Update:

The work has been completed and the gates have been removed.

2.4 Picnic Tables:

The picnic tables have been assembled and installed. They seem to be getting some use.

2.5 Pavilion and Picnic Table:

The pavilion and table were delivered in June. We have received many positive comments about them. A work day has been scheduled on Sat. Oct. 17, 2015 at 10:00 AM to apply a protective clear stain.

2.6 Gate signs:

All gates now have signs which read: Please Do Not Block Gate.

2.7 Fornal Property:

Naomi has spoken with the Enforcement Officer concerning the action on the Fornal situation. He has spoken with Mr. Fornal and there is some progress.

2.8 Talk with Brandon:

Donna spoke to Brandon about adding material to three ramps to lessen the incline. He indicated that he needed a plan in place because of the wetlands situation at Cook Hill.

2.9 Work on the Willimantic section of the trail:

The trail seems to be moving along nicely. No work has been done to the bridge at this point. Naomi has spoken to Laurie Gianotti who indicated the work is on schedule to be finished by November.

2.10 Ribbon Cutting:

The committee decided to set May 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM as the official Ribbon Cutting event. Naomi will coordinate with Laurie Gianotti to set this up.

2.11 Bird Walk:

Nusie reported a successful Bird Walk in June. The weather was perfect and we had a good turn-out. The next walk will be on June 4, 2016.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Offer of Picnic Table and Pavilion:

One of the committee's former members has offered to provide another pavilion and table for the trail. Donna contacted Laurie Gianotti to find out what the policy was concerning gifts. Laurie did indicate that there may be a problem with this. She was going to confer with the other managers in DEEP to give us an answer.

3.2 Re-appointment of members:

Three of our members; Naomi Davidson, Nusie Halpine and Peter Gandelman all have terms that will expire in May. All three members indicated desire to continue to be part of the committee.

Mary made a motion that the committee submits the names of Naomi Davidson, Nusie Halpine and Peter Gandelman to the Board of Selectmen for re-appointment to the Rails to Trails Committee. The motion was seconded by Bruce and passed unanimously.

3.3 Calendar for 2016:

The committee decided to schedule three meetings for the 2016 year:

March 14

April 11

September 12

3.3 October meeting:

The scheduled meeting for October 5, 2015 will be cancelled for lack of business.

4.0 Motion to Adjourn:

Mary made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 PM. Nusie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Koenig, Chairman