

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: February 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM (Remote Participation)

ISSUE DATE: March 22, 2022

PRESENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Martha Ellis, Ken Henderson, Mark Kaplan, Bud Schmitt and Robert Weidknecht

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Herb Brockert and Marc Connelly

PRESENT

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: None

ABSENT

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: Chris Cain

GUESTS: Thomas Whynot, Phil Gibson

PREPARED BY: Mark Kaplan

COPIES TO: Tina Hein, Select Board
Travis Ahern, Town Administrator
Elizabeth Greendale, Town Clerk
Karen Sherman, Town Planner

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1. Emergency Remote Participation.** Robert Weidknecht reviewed the special procedures for conducting the Trails Committee meeting by remote participation.
- 2. Scout Projects.** Thomas Whynot presented his proposed Eagle Scout project to address the drainage issues in the Monroe Drive area. A discussion followed, after which the Trails Committee approved the project.
- 3. Approve Minutes from Prior Meetings.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the January 18, 2022 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-0.

- 4. Equipment Maintenance.** Ken Henderson presented a proposal to have Bill's Mower Repair perform regular maintenance on the Trail Committee's outdoor power equipment. This vendor is not on the Town's approved vendor list, but the vendor regularly services the brand of tools used by the Trails Committee and provided a very reasonable quote. After discussion, Bud Schmitt moved to approve the expenditure of not more than \$250, payable from the Gift Account, to engage Bill's Mower Repair to service the outdoor power equipment, subject to the approval of the Town Administrator. Mark Kaplan seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-0.
- 5. Snow Dog Trail Groomer.** Robert Weidknecht led a discussion of the potential acquisition of a Snow Dog trail groomer, which could increase use of the Trail during the winter. Activities could include walking, cross country skiing and fat tire bicycling. Phil Gibson stated that the Friends of Holliston Trails is interested in supporting this project, and will raise the proposal at the next meeting of the "Friends of" group. After discussion, Bud Schmitt moved to approve the potential acquisition, operation and maintenance of the Snow Dog Trail Groomer by the Friends of Holliston Trails. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-0.
- 6. Friends of Holliston Trails - Funding.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the "Friends of" group has offered to fund \$10,000 worth of tree maintenance. The group has also offered to donate \$40,000 towards the drainage project at Phipps Tunnel. Prior to accepting the latter, Robert will submit a proposal for funding through Mass. Trails.
- 7. Signs Needed.** Robert Weidknecht reported that signs are stolen or missing from the Solect parking area. Robert also reported that the Monroe Drive homeowner's association has requested "stay on the trail" signs to discourage trail users from walking into their development. A discussion followed.
- 8. Holliston 300th Celebration 2024.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Mary Greendale is soliciting ideas for trail activities in connection with Holliston's 300th anniversary in 2024.
- 9. Comprehensive Long Range Plan Update.** Ken Henderson reported that the Long Range plan Committee's survey of Holliston residents received a moderately good response. They are tabulating the results and will publish their findings soon.
- 10. Trail Conditions.**

 - a. Landscape Improvements.** Bud Schmitt reported that he will develop plans to improve landscaping at several intersections following his retirement next month.

b. Drainage Repair at 354-360 Woodland Street. Robert Weidknecht reported that Herb Brockert is drawing up a remediation plan and working directly with the owner of this property.

11. Set Next Meeting Date. The next meeting will be held on March 21, 2022 at 7 p.m.

12. Meeting Adjournment. Ken Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman