

## **HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING DATE: September 24, 2015 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: October 15, 2015

### **PRESENT**

VOTING MEMBERS: Herb Brockert, Marc Connelly, Martha Ellis, Mark Kaplan  
and Robert Weidknecht

### **ABSENT**

VOTING MEMBERS: Ken Henderson

### **GUESTS:**

Bobby Blair  
Ed Daniels  
Aidan O'Sullivan

PREPARED BY: Mark Kaplan

COPIES TO: Jay Marsden, Board of Selectmen  
Beth Liberty, Finance Committee  
Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator  
Elizabeth Greendale, Town Clerk  
Karen Sherman, Town Planner

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Eagle Scout Project.** Aidan O'Sullivan presented his proposed project to install mile markers along the Trail. Herb Brockert moved to accept the proposal as presented. Mark Kaplan seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-0 in favor.
2. **Acquisition Church Street to Sherborn Town Line.**
  - a. Environmental Services Contract. Robert Weidknecht reported that bids for the Environmental Services Contract for this section of the Trail will be opened at the next meeting of the Trails Committee, to be held October 15, 2015.
  - b. Appraisal Update Contract. Robert Weidknecht reported that the appraisal was delayed, and was authorized by the Board of Selectmen on September 17, 2015. The appraisal should be completed by October 17, 2015 and the Town should be able to sign the purchase and sales agreement for this section of the Trail, subject to completion of the work done under the environmental services contract.

3. **Christ the King Lutheran Church Cleanup.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Church did a great job clearing brush and vines from Lowland Street to Washington Street. Mark Kaplan will send a thank you note to the Church.
4. **Public Comment.** Ed Daniels reported that three dog waste stations have been installed along the Trail as part of P.J. Donnelly's National Honor Society project. Ed, P.J., Vin Murphy and two other NHS volunteers did the installation. Jimmy Read of R&R Landscaping has volunteered to be responsible for periodically emptying the waste stations. Ed will approach the Board of Selectmen for a backup plan to empty the waste stations. Ed also reported that the Planning Board is seeking to develop a plan to connect the Trail, Goodwill Park and Pleasure Point via bike lanes. Ed also mentioned that a bike locked to the bike rack at Blair Square appears to have been abandoned, and asked who was responsible for enforcement. The Committee advised that it was not responsible for these matters.
5. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 26, 2015 Meeting.** Mark Kaplan moved to accept the minutes of the August 26, 2015 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-0.
6. **Vote Officers.** Robert Weidknecht's term as Chairman expired, and the position of Secretary became vacant with the resignation of Matt Varrell. Mark Kaplan moved to elect Robert Weidknecht as Chairman of the Holliston Trails Committee. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 4-0-1 in favor, with Robert Weidknecht abstaining. Martha Ellis moved to elect Mark Kaplan as Secretary of the Holliston Trails Committee. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote was 4-0-1 in favor, with Mark Kaplan abstaining.
7. **Authorizations.**
  - a. Central Street Supply. Herb Brockert moved to reauthorize the purchase of steel for the Arch Street Bridge from Central Street Supply in the amount of \$208.25, to be payable from the Gift Account. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
  - b. Central Street Supply. Herb Brockert moved to authorize the purchase of steel for the Exchange Street Bridge from Central Street Supply in the amount of \$556.45, to be payable from the Charles River Wheelmen Account. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

- c. Marc Connelly moved to authorize Robert Weidknecht to purchase equipment for the Summer Street solar-powered street crossing signals in an amount up to \$7,500, to be payable from the Friends of Holliston Trails Account. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

**8. Invoices.**

- a. John L. Pratt Co. Marc Connelly moved to authorize the payment for the bases for the Summer Street crossing signals in the amount of \$923.54, to be payable from the Friends of Holliston Trails Account. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

- 9. Solect Solar-Construction Status.** Herb Brockert reported that Solect Solar obtained necessary funding and has substantially completed the remaining work specified in its agreement with the Town of Holliston. Herb is pleased with the progress made to-date and with the quality of the work.

- 10. Pulte Homes Construction Status.** Marc Connelly reported that he reviewed the site and the purported clearcutting in the right of way along the Trail, and determined that no improper taking of trees had occurred.

- 11. Blair Square Design Study.** Ed Daniels reported that the “Friends of” group is holding a meeting to notify stakeholders and discuss development plans for the park at Blair Square this coming Tuesday.

- 12. Railings for Arch Street Bridge.** Herb Brockert reported that preparation work needed to be done in advance of installation of the railings, including, among other things, removal of the grate. This project was scheduled for October 3, 2015.

- 13. Railings for Exchange Street Bridge.** Herb Brockert reported that he will do some welding of the railings in his shop, but the base needs to be welded directly to the Bridge. Martha Ellis moved to authorize Herb Brockert to arrange for welding of the base in an amount up to \$500. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor. Painting of the railings will be included in the preparation project scheduled for October 3, 2015.

- 14. Trail Surface Construction-Cross Street to Summer Street and Chestnut Street to Pulte Homes Construction Site.** Robert Weidknecht reported that these sections of the Trail are ready for installation of the stone dust surface. A project was scheduled for Monday, October 12, 2015 for preparation work, including clearing the sections of rocks, weeds and sticks.

15. **RDA-Church Street to Sherborn.** Robert Weidknecht reported that a Request for Determination of Applicability needs to be prepared for this section of the Trail.
16. **Recreational Trails Grant 2014- Proposed Amendment for Church Street to Sherborn.** Robert will prepare an amendment to transfer funds for use on this section of the Trail.
17. **Trail Access to Parks Department.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Parks Department desires that children have access to the new location of the Parks Department on 1750 Washington Street from the Trail. The Highway Department will need to do work to permit access through the drainage channel next to the Trail.
18. **Americorp Project.** Robert Weidknecht met with Matt Varrell and a representative of Americorp to discuss a project to build steps alongside the Arch Street Bridge. Robert reported that the project would cost \$10,000. After discussion, the Committee agreed unanimously that the funds would be better spent on the Bridge, and that the Trails Committee will not submit an project application to Americorp at this time.
19. **Cheryl Cohen Mosaics.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Cheryl Cohen has requested permission to exhibit fairy houses along the Trail next spring. The Trails Committee unanimously approved the request.
20. **Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on October 15, 2015 at 7 p.m.
21. **Meeting Adjournment.** Herb Brockert moved to adjourn the meeting. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman