

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: August 9, 2017 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: November 8, 2017

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Marc Connelly

GUESTS:

Bobby Blair
Ethan Lim
Sandy Turquotte Lim

PREPARED BY: Mark Kaplan

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from Prior Meetings.

a. Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the July 19, 2017 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-0.

2. Invoices.

a. Anthony Cordani Trucking. Ken Henderson moved to authorize payment to Anthony Cordani Trucking for trail construction in the amount of \$2,160, to be payable from the DCR 2014 grant. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

b. GAITA Equipment, Inc.. Ken Henderson moved to authorize payment to GAITA Equipment, Inc. for the grading base gravel between Church Street and Route 16 in the amount of \$2,000, to be payable from the DCR 2014 grant. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

c. American Recycled Materials, Inc. Ken Henderson moved to authorize payment to American Recycled Materis, Inc. for 18 loads of base material in the amount of \$1,620, to

be payable from the DCR 2014 grant. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

3. **Blair Square - Selectmen Discussion August 7, 2017.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Board of Selectmen has decided to establish a formal sub-committee for development of Blair Square, subject to open meeting laws.
4. **Public Comment.** Ethan Lim discussed a possible Eagle Scout project to build railings for a bridge near Cross Street. Bud Schmitt will serve as coordinator for this project.
5. **America in Bloom Walking Tour - Access at Arch Street - Temporary Railing Needed.** Robert Weidknecht led another discussion of the need for temporary railings or alternative solutions due to the steep slope at this access point. The Trails Committee considered having a volunteer group, such as Boy Scouts, assist with the walking tour. Further discussion will be required.
6. **Encroachments - Follow up Regarding 360 Woodland Street.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the new Town Counsel provided advice on resolution of encroachments on the Trail. In accordance with the deed to the rail bed, residential encroachments cannot be permitted to result in occupancy or use of land because of potential contaminants in the soil. Any commercial encroachments could be granted an easement or a lease only upon a vote at Town Meeting receiving two-thirds approval. A more efficient solution would be to grant a revocable license in exchange for a fee and indemnification of the Town. Robert distributed a list of approximately 45 encroachments that will need to be prioritized for resolution.
7. **Barriers and Signs at VFW Building.** Robert Weidknecht reported that vehicles continue to be driven on the trail behind the VFW building. The Trails Committee again discussed installing a railroad tie barrier to delineate the property line and keep vehicles off of the trail.
8. **Signals and Signage.** The Trails Committee discussed the need for rapid flashing beacons at Washington, Lowland and Central Streets. The installation at Washington Street will also require a "repeater" to provide drivers advance warning of the activated signal crossing. Stop signs, street signs, mile markers and posts will also need to be installed at these locations. Robert will obtain quotes for these items. After discussion, Ken Henderson moved to authorize Robert Weidknecht to purchase rapid flashing beacons for Washington, Lowland and Central Streets, repeaters for Washington Street, and related signage and posts in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, payable from the Mass.

DOT Account. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 6-0-0.

9. **8-Arch Bridge Status.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the design documents have been approved and are going out to bid. Construction is expected to commence this fall, with a goal of finishing the project by Memorial Day 2018.
10. **Barriers at State Lumber Area - Design and Approval Needed.** The Trails Committee discussed installing a temporary fence or guard rail in the State Lumber area. Herb Brockert will get quotes for this project.
11. **James Hathaway, Eagle Scout Project - Chicken Brook Bridge Railing.** Bud Schmitt reported that James is seeking approval from the Boy Scouts for this Eagle Scout project.
12. **Trail Surface**
 - a. **Pulte Area - drainage issues.** Robert Weidknecht reported that last week's storm washed out the stone dust surface on this section of the trail. Herb Brockert will follow up with Pulte on the need to fix their drainage issues.
 - b. **Church Street Northerly.** Herb Brockert reported that the gravel base was installed on the section of the Trail between Mayflower Landing and the Dopping Brook well. Herb hopes the gravel base will be installed all the way to the Sherborn line within two weeks.
13. **Christ the King Lutheran Church Project.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Christ the King Lutheran Church will have a cleanup project on Sunday September 10, 2017. The group will maintain the trail between Cross and Summer Streets. Bud Schmitt will oversee the cleanup.
14. **Set Next Meeting Date.** The next meeting will be held on September 20, 2017 at 7 p.m.
15. **Meeting Adjournment.** Ken Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Martha Ellis seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman