

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: November 8, 2017 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: December 6, 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
Ed Daniels

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.** Martha Ellis moved to accept the minutes of the August 9, 2017 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-0.
- 2. Invoices.**
 - a. M.J. Tuttle Paving. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to M.J. Tuttle Paving for trucking services in the amount of \$1,440.00, to be payable from the DCR 2014 grant. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
 - b. Kimball Sand Co. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to Kimball Sand Co. for stone dust in the amount of \$6,954.17, to be payable from the DCR 2014 grant. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
 - c. Cordani Trucking. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to Anthony Cordani Trucking for trucking services in the amount of \$1,440.00, to be payable from Transportation Bond Bill funds. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

3. **Police Department Recommendation - Zones and Signage.** The Trails Committee discussed the HPD recommendation for zones and signage along the Trail. Several members expressed concern about excessive signage along the trail, which could create visual clutter and detract from the natural enjoyment of the Trail. The use of existing and future mile markers was identified as a potential resource for signage locations. Ed Daniels attended a wayfinding session at a rail trails conference last month and stated there are no specific standards for such signage. Ed indicated that the “Friends of” group could propose a signage format incorporating standardized graphics and icons for review by the Committee. Ed also discussed the possibility of developing a GPS map “app” for mobile devices and using “ambassadors” to educate trail users on proper trails etiquette. The Trails Committee agreed that trail etiquette signs would be appropriate at points along the Trail where parking is available.
4. **Central Street Crosswalk Location - site visit to determine location.** Members of the Trails Committee will meet this coming Sunday at 10:00 a.m. to determine the location for the Central Street crosswalk at Blair Square.
5. **Bench Location Site Meeting.** Members of the Trails Committee will also meet at Cross Street this coming Sunday to determine the location of a memorial bench for Jose Rodriguez.
6. **Maintenance Equipment - Purchases.** Herb Brockert stated that he had located a potentially suitable 26’ trailer that could be used to store maintenance equipment. After discussion, Bud Schmitt moved to authorize Herb Brockert to purchase a 26’ trailer for an amount not to exceed \$2,500, payable from the funds approved by Town Meeting for maintenance equipment. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 6-0-0.
7. **Barriers and Signs at VFW Building - Railroad Ties.** The Trails Committee set December 2, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. as the date for installing a railroad tie barrier to keep vehicles off of the trail.
8. **Railroad Tie Removal.** The Trails Committee discussed the need to schedule a date to remove the pile of railroad ties at South Street.

9. **Signals and Signage Status - Casey's.** The Trails Committee discussed the possible use of locally sourced inexpensive jersey barriers between the parking areas at Casey's and the Trail.
10. **8-Arch Bridge Status.** Herb Brockert reported that the 8-Arch Bridge Committee met with the contractor last night, and the Committee is hopeful that work on the bridge will commence on December 1, 2017. The bridge will be barricaded, but a formal detour will not be installed due to liability concerns over the need for trail users to cross to the other side of Woodland Street to reach the sidewalk.
11. **Scout Projects.**
- a. **James Hathaway, Eagle Scout Project - Chicken Brook Bridge Railing.** Bud Schmitt reported that James is meeting with his Scout Master on this project, and will be seeking reimbursement from the Trails Committee for building materials.
12. **Solect Parking Area.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Karen Sherman informed him that the status of the parking area is in the hands of the Conservation Commission because it is located on ConCom land. An order of conditions may be issued.
13. **Whistle Post Restoration - status.** Bud Schmitt noted that he hopes to restore more whistle posts over time.
14. **Trail Surface -**
- a. **Pulte Area - drainage issues.** The Trails Committee discussed potential action steps to cause Pulte to fix the drainage issues on the Trail near their property, including drafting a letter asking them to attend an upcoming Trails Committee meeting to discuss their remediation efforts.
15. **Public Comment.** Bobby Blair discussed having a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Trail after the 8-Arch Bridge restoration is completed next spring.
16. **Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on December 6, 2017 at 7 p.m.
17. **Meeting Adjournment.** Martha Ellis moved to adjourn the meeting. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman