

## **HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING DATE: February 21, 2018 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: March 29, 2018

### **PRESENT**

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

### **ABSENT**

VOTING MEMBERS: None

### **PRESENT ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:**

Chris Cain

GUESTS: Bobby Blair

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.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the January 24, 2018 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-0, with Herb Brockert and Bud Schmitt abstaining.
2. **High School Alumni Gift.** Herb Brockert reported that the the Rail Trail had received a multi-class gift of \$1,000 from Holliston High School alumni.
3. **Goals - 2018 Goals.** The Trails Committee discussed disposing the railroad ties at South Street and the installation of cross walk signals.
4. **First Night Activities - February 24th.** Robert Weidknecht noted that the rescheduled First Night Trail Walk would be held this coming Saturday.
5. **Bench Location Site Meeting.** The site meeting has been rescheduled for March 10, 2018 at 9 a.m. Members will meet near Flexhead Industries on Lowland Street.
6. **Maintenance Equipment.** Herb Brockert reported that the Town of Holliston had not yet paid for the shipping container that will be used for storage purposes, but that payment

should be made soon. Ken Henderson reported that he was waiting for the shipping container to arrive before purchasing any maintenance equipment.

7. **8-Arch Bridge Status.** Herb Brockert reported that the 8-Arch bridge project is progressing well. Catwalks have been installed, and the next step is to cut the curbings off. A crane will be installed to install precast units, of which 24 have already been built. The railings will be fabricated on-site.

8. **Scout Projects.**

- a. **James Hathaway Eagle Scout Project-Chicken Brook Bridge Railing.** Bud Schmitt reported that James will require financial support for this project and will apply for funding to the "Friends of" group. After discussion, Bud Schmitt moved to authorize the expenditure, if needed, of an amount not to exceed \$750 for the purchase of lumber for the James Hathaway Eagle Scout project, to be payable from the Gift Account. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-0 in favor.

- b. **Thomas Apke-Railing Installation-Council Approval Received, Start in Early April.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Thomas would do some fund raising for this project but would require financial support. After discussion, Ken Henderson moved to authorize the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$400 for the purchase of hardware and lumber for the Thomas Apke Eagle Scout project, to be payable from the Gift Account. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-0 in favor.

9. **Solect Parking Area.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the parking area is still not open. Herb Brockert will reach out again to his contacts at Solect.

10. **Trail Surface –**

- a. **Pulte Area - Surface Repair.** Herb Brockert reported that he took a sample of stone dust from the site to Kimball Sand for a sieve analysis. The results indicated that the stone dust may not be good. There are a number of issues at the site, but the stone dust may have contributed to the problems there. After discussion, Bud Schmitt moved to authorize the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$150 for soil testing by GLM Civil Engineering, to be payable from the Gift Account. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-0 in favor.

11. **Phipps Tunnel - Drainage and Leaf Removal.** Robert Weidknecht reported that a boulder recently fell into one of the drainage ditches and that leaves continue to fill up the drainage ditches, which he had raked out. The Trails Committee discussed potential expensive permanent solutions, including installing drainage pipes and covering over the ditches. Robert will call Mass. Mosquito Control Board to see if they can provide any assistance.
12. **Transportation Bond Bill - Remaining Amount.** Robert Weidknecht reported that \$15,000 is still available in this account.
13. **Maintenance Plan and Inspection Check List.** The Trails Committee discussed the need for light trail maintenance, with puddles along the trail and more serious standing water problems at Blair Square. The trail behind Casey's was identified as a priority along with the drainage issues at Phipps Tunnel. Robert Weidknecht will obtain a quote for 70 stackable bunker blocks which could be used to separate the trail from the parking lot at Caseys. Alternatively, Herb Brockert will get pricing for intallation of wooden fencing. In addition Herb will speak to the Highway Department about prioritizing installation of the cross walk signals at Washington and Central Streets.
14. **Encroachments - Snow Disposal.** Robert Weidknecht noted that snow plows had broken off the reflective markers behind the VFW building. A discussion followed, during which the VFW and Holliston Oil were identified as priorities for dealing with encroachments along the Trail. Ken Henderson will speak with Jeff Ritter about setting up a meeting with Town Counsel to discuss fees and licenses to deal with these encroachments.
15. **Public Comment.** Bobby Blair informed the Trails Committee that a ribbon cutting ceremony was being planned for July 4, 2018 at Blair Square, along with a laser show at the 8-Arch Bridge.
16. **Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on March 21, 2018 at 7 p.m.
17. **Meeting Adjournment.** Herb Brockert moved to adjourn the meeting. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman