

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: March 29, 2018 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: April 26, 2018

PRESENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Herb Brockert, Chris Cain, Mark Kaplan, Bud Schmitt and Robert Weidknecht

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Marc Connelly, Martha Ellis and Ken Henderson

GUESTS:

Bobby Blair
Bob Pirotti

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.** Mark Kaplan moved to accept the minutes of the February 21, 2018 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. True Value Hardware. Bud Schmitt moved to authorize payment to True Value Hardware for leaf rake and shovel in the amount of \$49.37, to be payable from the Town Meeting 2017 Account. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
 - b. True Value Hardware. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to True Value Hardware for key blanks in the amount of \$1.47, to be payable from the Town Meeting 2017 Account. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
 - c. True Value Hardware. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to True Value Hardware for key labor in the amount of \$7.14, to be payable from the Town Meeting 2017 Account. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

- d. Milford 495 Rental Center. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to Milford 495 Rental Center for maintenance equipment in the amount of \$1,348.07, to be payable from the Town Meeting 2017 Account. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
 - e. Interstate Batteries. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to Interstate Batteries for a new battery for the golf cart in the amount of \$75.00, to be payable from the Town Meeting 2017 Account. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
 - f. True Value Hardware. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to True Value Hardware for brackets and parts for the Chicken Brook railings in the amount of \$100.65, to be payable from the Gift account. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
3. **Public Comment.** Bobby Blair reported that composted horse manure would be spread at Blair Square this weekend to improve the soil.
4. **Bridge Railings - Offer to Paint or Stain.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Rick Irons of Mathworks offered to have volunteers paint or stain the bridge railings along the Trail. After discussion, the Trails Committee determined that the railings should not be painted or stained at this time, preferring to wait to do so after they had weathered for a few years.
5. **Volunteer/Scout Projects.**
- a. **James Hathaway Eagle Scout Project-Chicken Brook Bridge Railing.** Bud Schmitt reported that this project is tentatively scheduled for April 14, 2018.
 - b. **Thomas Apke-Railing Installation-Council Approval Received, Start in Early April.** Robert Weidknecht reported that this project is scheduled for this weekend. Members of the Trails Committee will provide assistance.
 - c. **Bruce Wood - Environmental Student Group March 10 and 18.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Bruce did the aforementioned cleanup projects and would like to do more projects.
 - d. **Isabella Ceresia - Invasive Species Removal Project.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Isabella is planning a project to remove bittersweet and other invasives along sections of the Trail.
6. **Maintenance Equipment/Storage Bin.** Herb Brockert reported that the recently purchased storage bin was in generally good condition but had a small leak. The leak can be fixed, and he and Ken Henderson are repairing it. The seller will provide a \$300 refund for this defect.

7. **8-Arch Bridge Status.** Herb Brockert reported that the contractor is preparing to install the first group of precast units, which will be installed via a large crane. The project is on target to be completed by Memorial Day.
8. **Trail Conditions**
 - a. **Pulte Area - Surface Repair.** Herb Brockert reported that GLM conducted another sieve analysis of the trail surface materials obtained from Kimball Sand, with inconclusive results. Herb indicated that more developments are expected in connection with resolving this issue.
 - b. **Phipps Tunnel - Drainage and Leaf Removal.** Robert Weidknecht reported that several large trees have fallen in this area, as well as at Union Street. Robert will ask the Highway Department to remove them.
 - c. **Railroad Tie Removal.** Herb Brockert reported that the cost of disposal of the railroad ties at South Street was increasing. Removal project still needs to be scheduled.
9. **Bench Location Site Meeting.** The site meeting needs to be rescheduled.
10. **Complaints.** Ed Daniels reported that a loose dog recently killed a chicken along the Trail. The “Friends of” group is trying to marshal support for dealing with Trail-related complaints. They are compiling data on complaints such as loose dogs and dog waste along the Trail.
11. **Encroachments.** The Trails Committee reviewed draft a letter to trail abutters regarding encroachments. A discussion followed. The Committee will review a revised draft at a subsequent meeting.
12. **Activities.** Ed Daniels informed the Trails Committee that the “Friends of” group will maintain a calendar of events occurring on the Trail. In addition, Vesta Real Estate Group will hold its annual household shredding event for Earth Day on April 21, 2017 at Holliston High School, which will raise funds for the Trail. Ed also gave an update on the Trails Celebration scheduled for July 4, 2018. In addition, a 5K trail run is scheduled for June 10, 2018.

13. **Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on April 26, 2018 at 7 p.m.
14. **Meeting Adjournment.** Herb Brockert moved to adjourn the meeting. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'RW', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Robert Weidknecht – Chairman