

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2013 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: April 24, 2013

PRESENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Herb Brockert, Melissa Halstead, Ken Henderson, Mark Kaplan, Matt Varrell, Robert Weidknecht and Martha Ellis

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Marc Connelly

GUESTS: Bobby Blair, Ben Flanagan, Jake Lavin

PREPARED BY: Mark Kaplan

COPIES TO: Jay Leary, Board of Selectmen
Michelle Johnson, Finance Committee
Paul LeBeau, Town Administrator
Elizabeth Greendale, Town Clerk
Karen Sherman, Town Planner

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Ben Flanagan, Scout Project:** Ben presented further information on his proposed Eagle project, which involves construction of a kiosk at Blair Square and installation of two signs at each of the 10 street intersections on the rail trail. A general discussion followed. Ben intends to dedicate several weekends during the month of April to the project. Given the ambitious scope of the project, the Committee prioritized the following intersections for installation of stop signs: Hopping Brook; Chestnut, Summer, Cross; and South. The Committee will mark stakes at the specific spots for installation and will contact Dig Safe in advance of construction.

Matt Varrell moved to authorize payment for 20 signs at \$14.95 apiece, to be paid from the DCR \$800K grant. Melissa Halstead seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-0 in favor of the motion.

2. **Jake Lavin, Scout Project:** Jake Lavin, a Holliston Boy Scout, presented a proposed Eagle project to beautify the trail entrance at Hopping Brook Road. His proposal included landscaping, installation of perennial plants and flowers, and installation of a bench. Jake intends to obtain all materials needed for the project through donations, and anticipates that

the project can be completed in one day. After discussion, the Committee approved the project.

3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 20, 2013 Meeting.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the February 20, 2013 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Melissa Halstead seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-0 in favor of the motion.
4. **Public Comment:** Bobby Blair updated the Committee on Holliston's 2013 entry in the America in Bloom competition. Bobby hopes to be able to secure donations to install lights at the Eight Arch Bridge.
5. **Grant Applications:**
 - a. Charles River Wheelmen grant: The grant will be used to improve the Arch Street bridge. The approach to the bridge is degrading, and the Committee discussed possible ways to fix this problem.
6. **Trail Construction--South Street to Hopping Brook Road:** Robert Weidknecht stated that the Holliston Lions Club is considering installing handrails in this section of the trail.
7. **Trail Construction--Church Street to Cross Street:** Robert Weidknecht led a discussion on plans to install decking at Arch Street.
8. **Permitting-Central Street to Cross Street:** Matt Varrell stated that he has submitted a request to the Mass. Division of Fish & Wildlife to get information on rare species for the entire length of the rail trail in connection with the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program. Application to the Holliston Conservation Committee will be made for further construction on this section of the trail.
9. **Booths at Earth Day Recycling Fair and Spring Stroll.** The Committee will have booths at the Recycling Fair fundraiser on April 20, 2013, and near the Gazebo at Blair Square during the Spring Stroll on April 27, 2013.
10. **Next Trail Cleanup:** The next cleanup will be on April 6 or 13, 2013 between South Street and the Milford trail. The Lions have volunteered to clear leaves and other debris from this section of the trail.
11. **Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on April 17, 2013 at 7 pm.
12. **Meeting Adjournment.** Ken Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht - Chairman