HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE:	September 17, 2014 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall
ISSUE DATE:	October 1, 2014
PRESENT VOTING MEMBERS:	Herb Brockert, Marc Connelly, Martha Ellis, Ken Henderson, Mark Kaplan, Matt Varrell and Robert Weidknecht
ABSENT VOTING MEMBERS:	None
GUESTS:	Don Bates Bobby Blair Bill Dowd
PREPARED BY:	Mark Kaplan
COPIES TO:	Jay Marsden, Board of Selectmen Beth Liberty, Finance Committee Paul LeBeau, Town Administrator Elizabeth Greendale, Town Clerk Karen Sherman, Town Planner

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 15, 2014 Meeting.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the August 15, 2014 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 6-0-0.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 2, 2014 Meeting.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the September 2, 2014 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 6-0-0.
3. **Solect Solar Discussion.** Robert Weidknecht reported that a meeting with Solect Energy, Peter Barbieri, and the Building Inspector, is scheduled for September 18, 2014 at the site of Solect Energytion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 6-0-0.n Solect Energyolect Energy and Peter Barbieri, the Building Inspecte as a result of the unauthorized tree cutting and a report on the status of the bridge design plans. In addition, an expert has been hired to assess the value of the trees that were cut down, with a meeting scheduled for next Tuesday. Matt Varrell reported that he has drafted a summary of remediation plans for inclusion in the Memorandum of Understanding to be entered into between Solect Energy and the Town of Holliston, and will distribute it to the Trails

Committee for review and comment. Matt also reported that he has not yet seen a revised landscape plan from Solect Energy.

4. **Public Comment - South Street Intersection - bicyclists are not stopping at crosswalk from east side into South Street - improved signage/visibility.** The Trails Committee reviewed various solutions to the problem of bicyclists not stopping at the South Street intersection, including cutting vegetation to improve visibility, installing bollards on the Trail and installing signage. After discussion, the Trails Committee concluded that the best approach would be to install signage instructing trail users to walk bikes across the intersection.

5. **Trail Edge Maintenance**. Robert Weidknecht reported that Bill Dowd purchased a heavy-duty brush cutter and cleaned up the edges of the trail from Cross Street to Phipps Tunnel. Bill inquired as to whether the Highway Department has or would obtain a brush cutter that could be used for this purpose. Herb Brockert stated that he will look into it since the Highway Department had previously made commitments to perform some trail maintenance.

6. **Arch Street - trail erosion into street at ramp on southeast side.** Robert Weidknecht reviewed actions required to repair the trail erosion at the ramp on Arch Street.

7. **Keefe Techctions required to repair the** Robert Weidknecht reported that Ashland Lumber has approximately $2,900 on account for lumber to be used on the Arch Street bridge construction, but these funds can be used on the Exchange Street Bridge. He also reported that the steel on the bridge needed to be test-welded to see if cups can be welded to the base to hold the railings which need to be installed. Don Bates volunteered to have a welder from his construction crew to perform the test. The drawings for the handrails can be released to Keefe Technical School for fabrication once the steel has been tested.

8. **Trail Construction - South Street to Milford Trail.** Herb Brockert reported that Murray Paving is encountering delays in grading this portion of the trail, and he is looking into alternatives.

9. **Grant Status s**

   (a) CPA Funding. Robert Weidknecht reported that he is attending tonightand he is looking into alternattion Committee meeting to seek CPA funding for the acquisition of the portion of the trail from Cross Street to Hopping Brook Road. CPC funding cannot be used for the acquisition of the portion of the trail north of Church Street due to the Railbanking status that has been discussed at prior meetings.

   (b) PARC Grant. Robert Weidknecht reported that he still hopes to obtain funds from this grant to minimize the amount of CPC funding required. PARC grants are expected to be awarded in November.

10. **Blair Square Design Study.** Ken Henderson reported that Joyce Hasting of GLM informed him that they have completed the study at Blair Square and are working on the parcel behind Caseyas been tested.t Ken will continue to follow up with Joyce on the status of the study.
11. **Phipps Tunnel Drainage Improvements.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the drainage improvements still need to be done before winter. Improvements include installation of approximately 200 feet of 4ncdiameter pipe and crushed stone. The Trails Committee discussed alternative improvements. Herb Brockert will prepare an estimate of the cost of this work.
12. **Hand Rails – Near South Street.** Robert Weidknecht reported that handrails still need to be installed on the filled-in bridge near South Street.
13. **"opping Brook Bridge near South.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Friends of group will hold a fundraiser at the Trails Committeell prepare an estimatHolliston. Smoothies will be sold which will be made in a bicycle-powered blender.
14. **Christ the King Church- Trail Cleanup – Follow-up.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Church group did a great job during its cleanup of the trail near Woodland Street. Rolf Briggs of Tree Specialists has volunteered to chip up the tree cuttings from that cleanup as well as doing some cutting of dead trees from Chestnut Street towards Summer Street.
15. **Historic features -Preservation Massachusetts - Most Endangered Historic Resources.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he sent the application to this organization's request for information.
16. **Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on October 1, 2014 at 7 p.m.
17. **Meeting Adjournment.** Marc Connelly moved to adjourn the meeting. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Weidknecht