

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: November 19, 2014 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: December 17, 2014

PRESENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Martha Ellis, Ken Henderson, Mark Kaplan, Matt Varrell and Robert Weidknecht

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Herb Brockert, Marc Connelly,

GUESTS:

Don Bates
Bobby Blair
Ed Daniels
Bill Dowd
Marc Rosenfeld

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. Correction of Meeting Minutes from September 17, 2014 Meeting.** Ken Henderson moved to correct the minutes of the September 17, 2014 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee to change the reference of the date of the prior meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee from August 6, 2014 to August 15, 2014. Matt Varrell seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-0.
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 1, 2014 Meeting.** Matt Varrell moved to accept the minutes of the October 1, 2014 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 4-0-1, with Mark Kaplan abstaining.
- 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 22, 2014 Meeting.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the October 22, 2014 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee.

Mark Kaplan seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 4-0-1, with Matt Varrell abstaining.

4. Invoices:

- a. Putnam Pipe. Ken Henderson moved to authorize payment for drainage pipe and gravel installed at Phipps Tunnel in the amount of \$683.78 to Putnam Pipe, to be paid from the DCR 2012 account. Mark Kaplan seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
- b. Pyne Sand & Stone, Inc. Ken Henderson moved to authorize payment for double washed ½" stone in the amount of \$816.76 to Pyne Sand & Stone, Inc., to be paid from the DCR 2012 account. Matt Varrell seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

5. Public Comment. Robert Weidknecht reported that the Trails Committee has received a letter from an abutter requesting the installation of a fence. A discussion followed, during which it was agreed that the Trails Committee would continue its policy of not installing fences between the Trail and abutting property due to the high expense, maintenance, lack of funds, and home owner's personal responsibility for same. Mark Kaplan agreed to draft a response to the abutter.

6. "Friends of" Group Coordination. Marc Rosenfeld reported that the Friends of group raised about \$10,000 which could be used for safety improvements on the Trail and asked the Trails Committee to prioritize a list of such improvements. Ed Daniels reported on the status of First Night activities planned for the Trail on New Year's Eve. Ed also reported that the Friends of group would adopt a strategy of setting fund raising goals for specific projects, such as raising money for crossing lights at Summer Street. Ed also reported that the Friends of group will be planting some trees donated by Mark Ahronian Landscaping near Wedgewood Drive on Saturday November 22, 2014.

7. Solect Solar, Agreement Status. Matt Varrell reported that the Letter of Agreement is under review by Town Counsel and an escrow account is to be established.

8. Acquisition.

- a. **Cross Street to Hopping Brook Road.** Robert Weidknecht reported that an updated appraisal is needed for this section of the Trail. Colliers will be retained to perform the appraisal.

9. Permitting—Cross Street to Hopping Brook Road—RDA. Matt Varrell reported that the Conservation Commission issued a negative Request for Determination of Applicability

(RDA) at a hearing held a few weeks ago; therefore no restrictions or conditions will be imposed on construction of this section of the Trail.

10. **Permitting—Start Church Street to Sherborn—RDA.** Matt Varrell reported that work needed to be started on the permitting process for this section of the Trail.
11. **Transportation Bond Bill status.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he would be working on documentation required in connection with funding under the Transportation Bond Bill.
12. **Grant Status.**
 - a. **DCR 2012.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he has submitted documentation to extend the term of the grant and amend the permitted uses.
 - b. **PARC Grant.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Holliston was not awarded a PARC Grant.
13. **Trail Construction—South Street to Milford Trail.** A post and railing needs to be reinstalled on this section of the trail. Matt Varrell and Bill Dowd have volunteered to do this project, on Saturday November 22, 2014.
14. **Dog Waste Receptacles.** Robert Weidknecht reported that a student would like to install dog waste receptacles on the Trail as a National Honor Society project. A discussion followed regarding maintenance of the receptacles as well as installation and maintenance of trash cans and other general Trail maintenance requirements. It was agreed that the Trail is a Town-owned property and should receive the same support services the Town provides to its other parks. Robert Weidknecht will approach the Board of Selectmen for assistance from the Highway Department.
15. **Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on December 17, 2014 at 7 p.m.
16. **Meeting Adjournment.** Matt Varrell moved to adjourn the meeting. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht, Chair