

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: March 18, 2015 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: April 16, 2015

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Herb Brockert, Marc Connelly and Matt Varrell

GUESTS: Bobby Blair

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 February 11, 2015 Meeting.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the February 11, 2015 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Mark Kaplan seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 4-0-0.
2. **Public Comment.**
 - a) Bobby Blair advised that Holliston would be hosting the America In Bloom Symposium in 2017, and representatives of AIB would be visiting Holliston next week.
3. **HPD ATV Patrols.** The Trails Committee further discussed the possibility of the HPD using an ATV to respond to emergencies and for routine patrols on the Trail. Support for emergency use was unanimous, but certain members raised concerns that use for routine patrols could damage the Trail and detract from its quiet use. It was noted that it appears that the HPD was only in the potential fundraising stages for acquiring an ATV, which could be used on all of Holliston's public lands. Lieutenant Denman will be asked to provide more information about HPD's plans if acquisition of the ATV will in fact be pursued.

4. **Blair Square Design Study.** The Trails Committee discussed the apparent discrepancy between the survey of Blair Square prepared by GLM Engineering and a valuation survey of the property completed decades ago. The current survey indicates that the width of the property owned by the Town approximately 10 feet narrower than the older survey. Ken Henderson will reach out to GLM Engineering to seek to understand the difference in dimensions. Ken will also follow up with GLM on a survey that needs to be prepared for the section of the Trail between Church Street and Exchange Street.
5. **Acquisition.**
 - a) **Cross Street to Hopping Brook Road.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Board of Selectmen would be signing the purchase and sale agreement for this section of the Trail at tonight's Selectmen's meeting. An environmental study will need to be prepared prior to closing on the purchase.
6. **Grant Status.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he prepared and filed status reports with the DCR which were due on March 15 for both the DCR 2012 and DCR 2014 grants.
7. **Summer Street Crossing Signal.** Robert Weidknecht reported that two quotes have been obtained for the crossing signal, but a third is required. It is hoped that the crossing signal will be installed this spring.
8. **Keefe Tech-Handrails at Exchange Street.** Ken Henderson will reach out to Keefe Technical School again for assistance on this project. Robert Weidknecht reported that a high school student may prepare, with the assistance of a structural engineer, a handrail design that could be used on all bridges on the Trail.
9. **Trail Construction-South Street to Milford Trail.**
 - a) **Removal of Ties.** Quotes are being sought for the removal of the pile of ties that have been collected.
10. **"Friends of" Group Coordination.**
 - a) **Memorandum of Understanding.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Friends of Group has asked the Trails Committee to sign a memorandum of understanding about their fundraising activities. After discussion, Ken Henderson moved to have Mark Kaplan contact Marc Rosenfeld to ensure the Trails Committee understood the reason for the request and to authorize Mark Kaplan to sign the MOU on behalf of the Trails Committee. Martha Ellis seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 4-0-0.

11. **Sign- lease payment due.** The lease payment for the sign at Blair Square advertsing the Mill buildings on Water Street is due. Robert Weidknecht will contact Paul LeBeau to try to find out who currently owns the property.
12. **Garden Club - Arbor Day Tree Planting.** The Garden Club has donated \$450 for the purchase of a flowering ornamental tree to be planted at Cross Street. PJ Kilkelly has volunteered to build a decorative wall at the location. Ken Henderson will seek to coordinate this project in time for a ceremony on Arbor Day, April 24, 2015.
13. **Arch Street - Access Toward Pleasure Point.** The Trails Committee discussed the access issues at the Arch Street Bridge. Gravel on the path next to the bridge has washed out onto Arch Street. Creation of a terraced path will be added to the list of potential Eagle Scout projects.
14. **Dog Waste on the Trail.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he recently cleaned up 70 piles of dog waste on the Trail between Cross Street and Hopping Brook Road. A discussion followed about the need to educate trail users to curb their dogs.
15. **Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on April 16, 2015 at 7 p.m.
16. **Meeting Adjournment.** Ken Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Martha Ellis seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman