

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: October 11, 2017 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: November 8, 2017

PRESENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Herb Brockert, Marc Connelly, Martha Ellis, Ken Henderson, Mark Kaplan, Bud Schmitt and Robert Weidknecht

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: None

GUESTS: Bobby Blair
Ed Daniels

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.

- a. Bud Schmitt moved to accept the minutes of the June 22, 2017 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-2, with Marc Connelly and Mark Kaplan abstaining.
- b. Bud Schmitt moved to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2017 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 5-0-2, with Marc Connelly and Mark Kaplan abstaining.

2. Invoices.

- a. True Value Hardware. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to True Value Hardware for paint supplies in the amount of \$128.70, to be payable from the DCR 2014 grant. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
- b. Kimball Sand Co. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to Kimball Sand Co. for stone dust in the amount of \$4,071.29, to be payable from Transportation Bond Bill funds. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

- c. Kimball Sand Co. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to Kimball Sand Co. for stone dust in the amount of \$6,831.61, to be payable from Transportation Bond Bill funds. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
 - d. Anthony Cordani Trucking. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to Anthony Cordani Trucking for trucking services in the amount of \$5,130.00, to be payable from the DCR 2014 grant. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
 - e. MJ Tuttle Paving. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to MJ Tuttle Paving for stone dust installation equipment in the amount of \$5,200.00, to be payable from the DCR 2014 grant. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.
3. **Public Comment.** Bobby Blair reported that the America in Bloom event was well received and a great success.
 4. **Police Department Recommendation - Zones and Signage.** Robert Weidknecht reported that HPD Officer Dan Lee advised him of an incident in which a person could not provide their specific location on the Rail Trail to emergency responders. Officer Lee suggested devising zones and signage to alert lost Trail users as to their location. A discussion followed, with no conclusions reached. Ed Daniels noted the possibility of developing a GPS Trails app. Ed also noted that he would be attending a rail trails conference in November and would inquire about best practices at a wayfinding and trail marking seminar.
 5. **Blair Square Committee - Status.** Ed Daniels reported that the existing committee had been disbanded by the Board of Selectmen in place of a new committee.
 6. **Griffin - Trail Improvements.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Griffin Electric had inadvertently disrupted the trail when digging a well as part of its construction activities. Wayne Griffin has asked the Committee to meet with him on site this coming Saturday at 9 a.m to discuss his remediation plans.
 7. **Encroachments - Prioritization.** Robert Weidknecht noted the Trails Committee still needs to prioritize the list of encroachments on the Trail. This will be an agenda item for a future Trails Committee meeting.
 8. **Barriers and Signs at VFW Building.** The Trails Committee again discussed installing a railroad tie barrier to delineate the constructed trail location to keep vehicles off of the Trail.
 9. **Signals and Signage.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he has obtained two quotes for signals and signage at Central, Lowland and Washington Streets. After discussion, Marc Connelly moved to authorize Robert Weidknecht to expend not more than \$14,000 on

signals and signage for Washington Street, to be paid from Transportation Bond Bill funds. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-0 in favor. Marc Connelly then moved to authorize Robert Weidknecht to expend not more than \$17,000 on signals and signage for Central and Lowland Streets, to be paid from Town Meeting 2016 funds. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-0 in favor.

10. **8-Arch Bridge Status.** Robert Weidknecht reported that bids came in \$130,000 higher than expected for the bridge project. The 8-Arch Bridge Committee will apply to the Community Preservation Committee for additional funds.
11. **James Hathaway, Eagle Scout Project - Chicken Brook Bridge Railing.** Bud Schmitt reported that James is still seeking approval from the Boy Scouts for this Eagle Scout project.
12. **Ryan Sofoul, Eagle Scout Project - Mile Markers.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Ryan Sofoul would like to install mile markers to the Sherborn line as an Eagle Scout project.
13. **Solect Parking Area.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he will be meeting with Solect to discuss their plans for fixing the drainage and other problems with the parking area.
14. **Whistle Post Restoration.** Bud Schmitt has repainted one of the whistle posts along the trail near Mudville according to its original design, and will soon be repainting another one.
15. **Trail Surface -**
 - a. **Pulte Area - drainage issues.** Herb Brockert reported that Pulte did a poor job fixing its drainage issues, and the trail needs further repair.
 - b. **Mayflower Landing to Sherborn Line.** Herb Brockert reported that the section of the trail between Mayflower Landing and the Sherborn town line has been completed. The only remaining section of the Trail to be constructed is the 8-Arch Bridge area, which will be completed after the repairs to the bridge are completed next Spring.
16. **Transportation Bond Bill - Remaining \$50,000 - Extension Requested to Expire by June 2018.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he has obtained an extension for use of these funds through June 2018.
17. **Anticipated Expenses.** The Trails Committee discussed certain anticipated upcoming expenses, including expenses for a dumpster for old railroad ties at South Street; edge markers and rebar for trail demarcation near the VFW; and stop signs and no motor vehicle signs for the Ryan Sofoul Eagle Scout project.
18. **Equipment Purchases.** Ken Henderson reported that he met with Jeff Ritter to discuss an article for Fall Town Meeting to request \$5,100 for a one-time acquisition of trail maintenance equipment. Ken and Robert Weidknecht also met with the Finance

Committee to discuss the expenditure, as well as the opportunity to “self-fund” maintenance costs through a revolving account for encroachment fees paid by trail abutters.

19. **“Friends of” Support Activities.** Ed Daniels lead a discussion on using “Friends of” volunteers to do regularly scheduled and ad hoc maintenance work. An initial project could involve watering the tree to be planted at Cross Street in memory of Jose Rodriguez.
20. **Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on November 8, 2017 at 7 p.m.
21. **Meeting Adjournment.** Marc Connelly moved to adjourn the meeting. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman