

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: January 23, 2019 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: February 13, 2019

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: None

PRESENT

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: Chris Cain

GUESTS:

Ed Daniels
Neel Southwick

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. **Holliston Police Department - Approval Letter to Finance Committee.** Ken Henderson reported that he submitted the draft letter expressing support for the Holliston Police Department to acquire a motorcycle to Jeff Ritter.
2. **Accomplishment of 2018 Goals.** The Trails Committee reviewed and approved the report on accomplishment of 2018 goals as prepared by Robert Weidknecht.
3. **Set Goals for 2019.** The Trails Committee reviewed and approved the list of 2019 goals as prepared by Robert Weidknecht.
4. **Public Comment.** Ed Daniels requested a key to the storage bin so that the Friends of the Holliston Trails could drop off items for storage. Ed also reported that the "Friends of" group would be working on a project to host historical Town information on the "Friends of" website, in support of

public education. Mary Greendale had compiled the information as part of the signage project. QR codes may be installed along the trail in future, which will link to information on the website.

5. **Approve Minutes from December 13, 2018 Meeting.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the December 13, 2018 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 6-0-0, with Herb Brockert abstaining.

6. **Blair Square Committee - Liaison Report.** Herb Brockert reported that the Blair Square Committee has prepared a \$108,000 grant application to Mass Trails to develop the area behind Casey's and will seek the Board of Selectmen's approval of the application next week. Herb also reported that the owner of Casey's has agreed to grant an easement needed to implement the design for the trail in this area. The design includes drainage and fencing, but the issue of access to the former State Street Lumber building has not yet been resolved.

1. **Invoices.**

- a. Milford 495 Rental Center. Ken Henderson moved to authorize payment to Milford 495 Rental Center for a chainsaw and related equipment in the amount of \$404.91, to be payable from the Town Meeting 2017 Account. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-0 in favor.

7. **Maintenance Equipment/Storage Bin.** Ken Henderson noted that hangers need to be installed in the storage bin. The roof also needs to be painted and waterproofed.

8. **Trail Conditions**

- a. **Phipps Tunnel - Drainage Design.** Herb Brockert reported that he has looked into materials for the drainage project. A discussion followed. Herb will take final measurements, which Robert Weidknecht will use to order materials.

- b. **Beacon Order - South Street.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he will submit a request for funding to the "Friends of" group.

9. **Encroachments - License Agreements.** The Trails Committee reviewed the draft letter to trail abutters as prepared by town counsel. A discussion followed, during which the members agreed that the Committee should play a central role in facilitating resolution of individual issues in concert with the Board of Selectmen. Ed Daniels noted that the lack of an enforcement mechanism is a major problem in resolving the encroachments. The Trails Committee agreed that it should

recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the Town of Holliston establish by-laws to create enforcement authority and penalties for non-compliance.

10. **Trash Compactor - Offered by Friends of - Potential Pickup by Republic.** Robert Weidknecht reported that responses to the Town's RFP for town-wide trash disposal are due tomorrow, with a contract to be issued in June. The Trails Committee will be able to evaluate the need for the "Friends of" group's generous offer to donate a trash compactor after the winning bid is selected.
11. **Gypsy Moth Spraying.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Town plans to spray Acelepryn, a non-toxic insecticide, to control for gypsy moth. Spraying will take place in mid-May and mid-June. Robert will file the necessary application with the Conservation Commission to allow spraying to take place on the section of the Trail near Hopping Brook Road.
12. **Set Next Meeting Date.** The next meeting will be held on February 13, 2019, 2019 at 7 p.m.
13. **Meeting Adjournment.** Ken Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman