

## **HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING DATE: March 13, 2019 at 7:00 PM, Holliston Town Hall

ISSUE DATE: April 24, 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  
Bob Pierotti

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. **Approve Minutes from February 13, 2019 Meeting.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the February 13, 2019 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Bud Schmitt seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 4-0-3, with Marc Connelly, Martha Ellis and Bud Schmitt abstaining.
1. **Invoices.**
  - a. Milford 495 Rental Center. Bud Schmitt moved to authorize payment to Milford 495 Rental Center for chaps, chains, and bar oil in the amount of \$120.73, to be payable from the Town Meeting 2017 Account. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-0 in favor.
2. **Drainage at Boston Honey Company - Chestnut Street.** At a previous meeting, the Committee discussed a request from the Boston Honey Company for a drainage channel to be installed along the Trail near their property. The Committee determined that the drainage issues were a private

matter and should be resolved by the property owner. Robert Weidknecht reported that he and Herb Brockert subsequently performed a site visit and concluded that the business should follow their own plan design. Robert sent the business a written summary of this conclusion.

3. **Gypsy Moth Spraying.** Marc Connelly led a discussion of Rolf Brigg's offer to spray for gypsy moths along certain sections of the Trail. He described how Acelypryn is applied, the timing of two required applications, and noted that it cannot be sprayed along wetlands. The Committee, after discussing the limited areas along the trail that could be treated and the impact of spraying on Trail users and abutters, tabled the matter with a tentative conclusion that spot spraying may be possible. Marc will have a follow-up discussion with Rolf.
4. **10th Annual Massachusetts Walking Tour.** Mark Kaplan reported that he had contacted Sue Hammerland at Holliston Mills artist studios to see if the artists want to organize an "art-on-the-trail" event in conjunction with the Mass. Walking Tour on June 17, 2019. He had not yet received a reply. Mark also noted that he would coordinate with the "Friends of" group to publicize the event closer to the date of the event.
5. **Letter on Encroachments - Selectmen.** Mark Kaplan reviewed proposed edits on the draft letter on encroachments. Ken Henderson will forward it to Jeff Ritter for review with Town counsel.
6. **Garden Club - Tree Planting Near Monroe Drive.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Holliston Garden Club would like to plan a Redbud tree near Monroe Drive. After discussion, the Committee was supportive of the project as long as the Garden Club took responsibility for watering the tree on an ongoing basis. A site visit was planned for Saturday, March 16, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. to determine where the tree should be planted.
7. **Access Path to 1750 Washington Street.** Ken Henderson reviewed the proposed design for the access path from the Trail to 1750 Washington Street, which had been prepared by GLM Engineering Consultants. The Committee discussed the challenges in building a path in that area due to the layout of the terrain. Questions were also raised as to whether the design is ADA compliant. A site visit was planned for Saturday, March 16, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. to gather more information. Ed Daniels noted that the "Friends of" group was interested in helping with funding for this project. The work is expected to be performed by the Holliston Highway Department.

8. **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Trail Run.** Ed Daniels reported that the “Friends of” group is sponsoring a 5K trail run on June 9, 2019 as a fundraiser for improvements along the Trail.
9. **Access Path to Community Farm.** Robert Weidknecht reported that P.J. Kilkelly is promoting the Community Farm and asked if there was a safe way for children to access the Farm from the Trail. After discussion, The Trails Committee was unable to identify a route that did not involve walking on streets with heavy traffic.
10. **Blair Square Committee - Liaison Report.** Herb Brockert presented a preliminary design for Blair Square that includes a small Veteran’s memorial. Herb reported that input was being sought from the Trails Committee and the VFW. Input will also be sought from the general public. Members of the Trails Committee believed the design was promising, but noted that it did not include a gazebo or other covered structure. Certain members suggested that the Blair Square Committee consider retaining this feature in the final design. Funding for this project will be sought through grants from Mass. Trails and Town Meeting/Community Preservation Committee.
11. **Town Meeting - Warrant Article for Maintenance.** Ken Henderson reported that he presented a draft warrant article to the Board of Selectmen, which was supportive of the article. Ken will also present the draft article to the Finance Committee for their consideration.
12. **Maintenance Equipment/Storage Bin.** Herb Brockert reported that he had researched options for sealing the roof of the storage bin, and that a liquid rubber option would be the preferred solution. The cost will be less than \$300. Ed Daniels noted that funding was available from the “Friends of” group because it had received a \$300 credit from the seller of the storage bin after it was discovered that the roof leaked.

### **13. Trail Conditions**

- a. **Phipps Tunnel - Drainage Design.** Herb Brockert reported that Putnam Pipes does not have the type of drainage materials contemplated in the drainage design that was being considered. Herb will do more research into other options.
- b. **Soft Surface - Various Sections of Trail.** Herb Brockert will ask Tom Smith of the Holliston Highway Department if a sander could be used to spread stone dust on the soft areas of the Trail between Lowland and Washington Streets in an effort to improve the surface. Herb is experimenting with ways to add more aggregate to the fines in the stone dust on this part of the Trail to solve the rutting problem.

**14. Set Next Meeting Date.** The next meeting will be held on April 17, 2019, 2019 at 7 p.m.

**15. Meeting Adjournment.** Ken Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'RW', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Robert Weidknecht – Chairman