

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: November 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM, Emergency Remote Participation

ISSUE DATE: December 15, 2020

PRESENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Herb Brockert, Ken Henderson, Mark Kaplan, Bud Schmitt and Robert Weidknecht

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Marc Connelly, Martha Ellis

PRESENT

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: None

ABSENT

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: Chris Cain

GUESTS: None

PREPARED BY: Mark Kaplan

COPIES TO: Tina Hein, Select Board
Travis Ahern, Town Administrator
Elizabeth Greendale, Town Clerk
Karen Sherman, Town Planner

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1. Emergency Remote Participation.** Robert Weidknecht reviewed the special procedures for conducting the Trails Committee meeting by remote participation.
- 2. Approve Minutes from Prior Meetings.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the October 14, 2020 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call in favor of the motion was 5-0-0.
- 3. Invoices.**
 - a. Holliston True Value. Bud Schmitt moved to authorize payment to Holliston True Value for a vice grip, channel locks and a claw hammer in the amount of \$56.82, to be payable from the 2019 Town Meeting Account. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call was 5-0-0 in favor.

- b. Holliston True Value. Bud Schmitt moved to authorize payment to Holliston True Value for nuts and bolts in the amount of \$2.20, to be payable from the 2019 Town Meeting Account. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call was 5-0-0 in favor.
- c. Holliston True Value. Bud Schmitt moved to authorize payment to Holliston True Value a tool box in the amount of \$15.19, to be payable from the 2019 Town Meeting Account. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call was 5-0-0 in favor.
- 4. **Parking at Mayflower Landing**. Ken Henderson reported that the town of Holliston has not yet accepted Mayflower Landing as a town road, so it does not have the right to install parking signage. The Committee discussed the possibility of installing a gravel parking lot some time in the future, but will take no action to designate a parking area at the present time.
- 5. **Trash Receptacles**. Robert Weidknecht reported that a Holliston High School student group had contacted him about the possibility of establishing a trash pick up program along the trail. Robert directed the inquiry to Tina Hein, who has asked Travis Ahern, the Town Administrator, whether the Department of Public Works or E.L. Harvey could empty the trash barrels.
- 6. **Land Donation - Generazio Property - Status**. Robert Weidknecht reported that the acquisition of this property is still in progress.
- 7. **Scout Projects**. Robert Weidknecht reported that Trevor Fleischman has completed his picnic table Eagle Scout project. There are no other Scout projects currently active.
- 8. **Encroachments**. Robert Weidknecht reported that the Town Administrator has been in contact with town counsel on license agreements for encroachments by commercial abutters and letters/cease and desist orders for encroachments by residential abutters. Both matters are still in progress.
- 9. **Blair Square Committee - Liaison Report**. Herb Brockert reported that the work behind Casey's has been substantially completed. However, a small strip of land needs to have a stone dust surface applied to it. After discussion, members of the Committee will do this work on November 24, 2020. Ken Henderson moved to authorize Herb Brockert to order stone dust in an amount not to exceed \$600, to be payable from the 2019 Town Meeting Account. Mark Kaplan seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call was 5-0-0 in favor. Herb also reported that development of Blair Square has been slowed by lack of funds, and described actions the Blair Square Committee may take as phase 1 of the project. In addition, Herb reported that local Veterans' groups have acquired

a monument and are seeking to install it somewhere along the trail in or near Blair Square. After discussion, the Committee agreed that it would need to know the size and location of the proposed site in order to evaluate the request.

10. Trail Conditions

- a. **Phipps Tunnel.** Herb Brockert and Ken Henderson reported that the leaves have been vacuumed from the ditches twice at Phipps Tunnel, but the ditches have filled up again. Herb has purchased a vacuum machine and made it available for use by the Committee. Ken will see if the “Friends of” group can contribute \$350 to reimburse Herb for use of the machine. Members of the Committee will tentatively meet at Phipps Tunnel at 9:00 a.m. on November 30, 2020 to finish vacuuming out the ditches.
- b. **Railroad Tie Removal.** Herb Brockert will look into potential vendors to haul away the pile of railroad ties at South Street.

11. Arbor Day Tree Maintenance. Robert Weidknecht reported that Rolf Briggs has rescheduled the Arbor Day cleanup to March 2021. The Committee discussed the need to develop a plan to physically close the trail during this project.

12. Mask Signage. Robert Weidknecht reported that new signs from the Board of Health have been installed along the Trail regarding the need to wear masks due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

13. Set Next Meeting Date. The next meeting will be held on December 15, 2020 at 7 p.m.

14. Meeting Adjournment. Herb Brockert moved to adjourn the meeting. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman