

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: January 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM, Emergency Remote Participation

ISSUE DATE: February 9, 2021

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: Gretchen Prieve

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. Public Comment.** Gretchen Prieve of the Blair Square Committee informed the Trails Committee that her Committee was interested in applying for the same MassTrails grant that the Trails Committee planned to apply for in order to make trail improvements in the Phipps Tunnel area. A discussion followed regarding how to coordinate, whether each Committee should submit an application, and what approach would result in the best chance of the Town of Holliston receiving an award under the MassTrails program.

- 3. Approve Minutes from Prior Meetings.** Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the December 15, 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.
- 4. 2021 Goals and Accomplishment of 2020 Goals.** Robert Weidknecht reviewed the 2021 Goals and 2020 Accomplishments. A discussion followed, after which the Trails Committee approved the two summaries, as revised.
- 5. Land Donation - Generazio Property.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the acquisition of a piece of this property was completed at the end of December 2020. The Town of Holliston has not yet closed on the portion of the property owned by Fafard Real Estate. The Generazio property will allow trail users to connect to a broader trails system through the Town of Sherborn.
- 6. Farmers Market Proposal.** Robert Weidknecht reviewed Bobby Blair's proposal to establish a farmer's market at Blair Square that would run from June to October. A discussion followed. The Trails Committee was supportive of the proposal.
- 7. Encroachments.**
- (a) Commercial: Robert Weidknecht reported that the Select Board has approved the license agreement letters to be sent to commercial abutters.
 - (b) Residential: Robert Weidknecht reported that the Select Board has approved the letter to residential abutters who continue to encroach upon the Trail.
 - (c) Signs for Residential Dumping: Herb Brockert reported that he had looked into the cost of putting up signs prohibiting residential dumping. After discussion, Ken Henderson moved to authorize Herb Brockert to expend no more than \$300 for residential dumping signage to be installed in select locations during the spring. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call in favor of the motion was 5-0-0.
 - (d) Monroe Drive: Public Parking Blocked by Storage Bin and Salt Piles - Robert Weidknecht reported that he contacted the management company for the Holliston Woods development about this issue. Holliston Woods agreed to have its landscape crew remove the encroachments in March.

8. Blair Square Committee - Liaison Report. Herb Brockert reported that: the Blair Square Committee recently reviewed its mission statement; the Committee is in favor of permanently making a section of Front Street one-way and increasing public parking on that street; the Committee will seek funding for improvements either through a MassTrails grant or through the Town of Holliston; plans for a veteran's memorial is still under review; a drawing of the Blair Square development will be published for public review and comment. A discussion followed.

9. Trail Conditions.

(a) Drainage Issues.

(a) 1490 Washington Street Detention Basin Outflow (pipe needed): Robert Weidknecht reported that he has asked the owner of this property to repair the section of trail by this property, which is west of Summer Street.

(b) Pulte Homes Area (drainage pipe needed at three locations): Robert Weidknecht led a discussion of the groundwater problem in this area. A site walk was scheduled for Saturday January 16, 2021 at 9 am.

(b) Surfaces.

(a) Near NGMA, North of Lowland Street, other areas too soft: Herb Brockert led a discussion of possible solutions to the "soupy" areas of the trail between Lowland Street and the Sherborn line.

(c) Railroad Ties - collection of remaining ones, disposal. Herb Brockert reported that he has found a business that will remove the ties at a cost of \$125 per ton and a \$500 trucking fee.

(d) Light Bars for Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) for Summer Street. Robert Weidknecht reported that this location should have two sets of RRFBs, but only one set is installed.

(e) Railings. Robert Weidknecht reported that there are currently no Scout projects scheduled for railing installation. A discussion followed regarding existence of granite at remaining locations.

10. Set Next Meeting Date. The next meeting will be held on February 9, 2021 at 7 p.m.

11. 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 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'RW', is enclosed in a light blue rectangular box.

Robert Weidknecht – Chairman