

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: June 16, 2021 at 7:00 PM, Room 19 and Emergency Remote Participation

ISSUE DATE: July 21, 2021

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS:

PRESENT

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: None

ABSENT

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: Chris Cain

GUESTS: Eddie Bombardieri, Mike Bombardieri

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.** Herb Brockert moved to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2021 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call in favor of the motion was 4-0-2.
- 3. Eagle Scout Project.** Eddie Bombardieri presented his proposed Eagle Scout project to install picnic tables near Little Folk Farm and the Arch Street Bridge. After discussion, the Committee agreed to do a site visit to confirm the proposed location near the Arch Street Bridge. Herb Brockert moved to authorize the replacement of the picnic table near Little Folk Farm, with a decision on the Arch Street

Bridge location to be made following a site visit on Saturday, June 19, 2021. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call was 6-0-0.

4. Ken Henderson joined the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

5. **Memorial Bench Issue.** Ken Henderson reported that improper signage had been installed around a memorial bench near Little Folk Farm. After discussion, Ken moved to inform the donor that the signage must be removed and no other signage or future additions to the memorial bench area is permitted without the express written permission of the Trails Committee. Mark Kaplan seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call was 7-0-0. Robert Weidknecht will notify the donor.

6. **Reorganization - Vote Officers.** Ken Henderson moved to elect Robert Weidknecht as Chair, and Mark Kaplan as secretary, of the Trails Committee. Marc Connelly seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call was 7-0-0.

7. **Vote for Designee to Long Range Planning Committee.** Ken Henderson volunteered to serve on the Long Range Planning Committee. After discussion, Robert Weidknecht moved to appoint Ken Henderson as the Committee's designee to the Long Range Planning Committee. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call was 7-0-0.

8. **Site Meeting with Regal Street Residential Abutters.** Robert Weidknecht reported that he met with Travis Ahern and Tina Hein to discuss several matters, including residential encroachments. Tina suggested meeting with Regal Street residential abutters to discuss their reported concerns. Robert will set up a neighborhood meeting.

9. **Raia Auctioneers - License Fee/Parking.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Travis Ahern did not recommend Raia Auctioneer's proposal to allow trail users to park in their parking lot in exchange for a waiver of the license fee for commercial abutter encroachments, due to complications with license, easement, and owner/tenant concerns. Robert advised Raia to put up a no rail trail parking sign to resolve trail users parking on property. Raia has also decided to remove the encroachment in the near future.

10. **Funding Discussion with Travis Ahern.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Travis Ahern informed him that each trail project with a cost greater than \$10,000 must be approved individually by Town Meeting. However, Travis indicated that the license fees collected for encroachments by commercial abutters can be directed to the Committee for small projects. Travis will also provide a copy of state procurement law for future reference.

- 11. Complete Streets Program.** Robert Weidknecht reported that Tina Hein informed him that truncated domes at cross walks for the benefit of blind trail users might qualify for funding through the Complete Streets Program.
- 12. Phipps Tunnel Area Improvements.** Herb Brockert reported that funding for the proposed projects at Phipps Tunnel must be approved by Town Meeting.
- 13. Encroachments.** Ken Henderson noted that the trail behind Holliston Oil was rutted due to vehicles crossing the trail to reach Holliston Oil's designated parking area. After discussion, Herb Brockert will talk to the owner.
- 14. Blair Square Committee - Liaison Report.** Herb Brockert reported that the Blair Square Committee had not met recently. The \$50,000 bid package was approved and is pending. The construction of Veteran's Park is progressing.
- 15. Graffiti Along the Trail.** Robert Weidknecht reported that graffiti was found on 8 Arch Bridge, Depot Liquors, CVS and the Arch Street Bridge. A discussion followed.
- 16. Set Next Meeting Date.** The next meeting will be held on July 21, 2021 at 7 p.m.
- 17. Meeting Adjournment.** Ken Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote by roll call for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman