

HOLLISTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: November 18, 2021 at 7:00 PM, (Hybrid In-Person/ Remote Participation)

ISSUE DATE: December 14, 2021

PRESENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Herb Brockert, Ken Henderson, Martha Ellis, Bud Schmitt, and Robert Weidknecht

ABSENT

VOTING MEMBERS: Marc Connelly and Mark Kaplan

PRESENT

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: Chris Cain

ABSENT

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: None

GUESTS: Chris Cain,
Bobby Blair

PREPARED BY: Robert Weidknecht

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Approve Minutes from Prior Meetings. Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes, as amended, of the September 22, 2021 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 4-0-0.

Ken Henderson moved to accept the minutes of the October 22, 2021 meeting of the Holliston Trails Committee. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote in favor of the motion was 4-0-0.

Bud Schmidt entered the meeting.

2. Invoices.

Holliston True Value. Ken Henderson moved to authorize payment to Holliston True Value for post brackets in the amount of \$104.45, to be payable from the Trails Gift Account. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

Kimball Sand Company, Inc. Herb Brockert moved to authorize payment to Kimball Sand Company, Inc. for 34 tons of stone dust in the amount of \$527.98, to be payable from the Trails Gift Account. Ken Henderson seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

3. Public Comment. None.

4. Blair Square Gift Account. Robert Weidknecht reported on an email from Travis Ahern to determine if the Trails Committee had any concerns with the Blair Square Committee establishing a gift account. After discussion, the Committee stated that there were no concerns with this separate account specifically for the Blair Square improvements.

5. Blair Square funding support. Robert Weidknecht prepared a draft support letter of the current design of Blair Square. Ken Henderson moved to issue the support letter as written and for Robert Weidknecht to sign and issue the letter. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 in favor.

6. Blair Square Update. Herb Brockert reported on the status of the planning for the improvements. The current plan is to split up the improvements into three phases, Infrastructure, Gathering Area construction, and finally the Structure. Additional community feedback and support letters are being sought.

7. Conservation Commission Request. Robert Weidknecht attended the Conservation Commission meeting to discuss recent land disturbance activities on Conservation Land. The Commission asked if we had ideas on how to actively review encroachments, and to deal with the specific incident. Further, the Commission was looking for assistance to maintain its Conservation Land and trails. Trails Committee members were not in favor of taking on additional trail maintenance on Conservation Land, since maintaining the rail trail involves a substantial amount of volunteer time.

8. Phipps Tunnel Area. Travis Ahern provided approval to move forward with the contract to clean out and video inspect the pipes within Phipps Tunnel. The contractor however, needs the inverts of the pipe to be dug out to create a sump for material jetted out of the pipes. Herb Brockert will coordinate with the Highway Department about excavation at the pipes.

- 9. Rapid Flashing Beacon Upgrades.** Robert Weidknecht reported that the Highway Department authorized the contract to install the upgrades to the various Rapid Flashing Beacons at the street crossings.
- 10. Scout Projects.** Robert Weidknecht reported that an Eagle Scout candidate, V. Shah, is planning to install railings at one of the cattle passes. Another scout is performing a service project to clean out the ditches near the Milford line.
- 11. Drainage.** Herb reviewed the conditions at a washout of the trail from paved surfaces at 340-360 Woodland Street. The landowner is willing to install improvements, including the process to seek approval for the work from the Conservation Commission. Robert will discuss with the Conservation Agent the appropriate filing needed.
- 12. Landscape Improvements.** Bud reported that he is planning to design various landscape improvements at the intersections. A goal is to make them consistent and low maintenance. Herb Brockert is willing to donate boulders from a stockpile at his yard.
- 13. Set Next Meeting Date.** The next meeting will be held on December 14, 2021 at 7 p.m.
- 14. Meeting Adjournment.** Ken Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Herb Brockert seconded the motion, and the vote for adjournment was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Weidknecht – Chairman