

## Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail

Minutes for the Open Monthly Meeting – December 1, 2021

President Mike Morrison called to order at 7:03 pm

### In Attendance

Members: William Sanborn, Reno Deluzio, Mike Morrison; Catherine Guido; David Kent; Guro

Non-Members: Jim ASAM

Guest: Jim ASAM – Trail updates regarding maintenance

Veterans gate was broken behind Big Y

Working to spot weld post or install a new sleeve

Temporary barrels are in place for now

Fence damage – mostly from downed trees

Working with tree warden to evaluate trees near rt 85 section

Beaver trappers have been called in to remove beavers (Scott and John Perry working this)

Behind Hickeys near Zain Ridge is also being evaluated for beavers

Brush removal – (via machine – Kubota skid steer)

Japanese knotweed at various sections – mostly crossings

New machine to be purchased over Winter will allow us to do clearing all year

Expect this to be improved and very noticeable in the next year with more frequent removals

(New equipment has a 6' deck that can mulch up to 6 inches in diameter)

Can do level sloped areas up to 6' off of the trail – providing there is adequate space to maneuver

Another machine with a 20' boom can be rented for now. This is also in the long term capital plans

To purchase a boom unit in the future

Graffiti – Not as bad this year vs. prior years – Have been hand painting over graffiti as needed

Flooding – Near Zain Ridge – High voltage lines

We believe there should be culverts under the path to handle drainage

Scott couldn't find a culvert – chances are it is completely blocked

There have been a lot of issues along the trail with higher water tables this past Summer

Softer edges cannot be groomed/cut as the ground has been too soft

Memorial bench program – We don't have new spaces and therefore this has been inactive

Want to "Stop" this program for all new requests

Jim does NOT want to entertain new requests at this time

Until we have a plan to entertain requests, then don't want any new requests

Trail updates with Jim are a BIG help to the parks department.

If visitors notice a problem, please encourage them to contact the Parks department via the town hall

Jim can be reached as follows:

Mobile: +1.774.573.1592

Email: [jasam@townofmilford.com](mailto:jasam@townofmilford.com)

Entrance way near quarries; a lot of trash

Is it possible to place a trash barrel near there?

Cultural counsel – Wants to do artwork on barrels

Bench cleaning/maintenance – should be done by Parks department, including power washing

Scout projects and community service

Contact Jim if we get requests for possible projects

Will work with Friends and Scouts to accommodate as appropriate

Bike signs with speed limits and proper trail etiquette

Yes, new signs can be made and installed

Reno:

The trail maintenance log can be managed by Jim's team

Mike has a listing on Google drive

We can give edit rights to Jim and others to keep the maintenance log updated/current

Parks has a work schedule; but it is NOT specific for building a tracker for issues/requests

Fence behind senior center – It's a mess

Needs to be scraped and cleaned up

It's a cedar wood and it looks terrible

This fence belongs to the trail (See #11 on the maintenance log)

Action: Get an estimate to clean it and spruce it up

**President's Report - Mike:**

Updating website that references memorial bench locations

Change wording to indicate that the bench program has been stopped

**VP Report - Catherine:**

Facebook postings about trail closures due to maintenance

Emails to several contributors thanking them

Several new member candidates from the Pumpkin stroll – added to the mailing list

**Treasurer report – Bill:**

Will share 'Singletracks' article about Scout bridge project in the NEMBA trails

About local Girl Scout who built a wooden bridge in the Milford 'Vietnam' area

Reno:

Want ability for trail users to ID and report a problem on the trail

Would be helpful to indicate the specific latitude and longitude to pinpoint exact section/location

**New Business:**

Meeting Schedule for 2022

Note: Meetings need to cover/include the following:

Agenda

Goals/objectives

Reports

Suggested meeting dates for consideration discussed previously

Avoid meetings near a holiday and/or election days

We are having difficulties obtaining a quorum (e.g. Oct & Nov)

~60 active/paying members (Anyone of them asked to participate?)

Is 2022 a year to arrange another party, similar to 2018 in August?

Motion:

Have six (6) meeting dates in 2022 - Approved/Unanimous

2-February (vote on budget authorizations)

6-April (vote on Beautification day; celebrate Milford; Guests/projects)

1-June

3-August

7-September (elections)

2-November

Motion:

Next meeting: 2-February-2022 @ 7:00pm

Meeting adjourned 8:50 PM

Milford Friends of the Upper Charles trail

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