

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
October 2, 2007

Call to Order

Pat Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM. 7 members and 4 visitors were present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the 9/4/2007 meeting.

Guest Speaker

Maria O'Regan from the Greenleaf Garden Club plans for her jr gardeners to plant some daffodils in November at the Louisa Lake trail head. They would bloom in the spring. Reno cautioned the soil along the trail is very poor and suggested digging some test holes to check the quality. He also warned to avoid planting right along the trail because the Parks Dept will mow along the sides.

Officer Reports

• **President – Pat Rosenthal**

- Naman Shaw, the Eagle Scout, marked along the trail where he plans to place the sparrow and bat boxes. He will start digging holes for the poles this weekend.
- Pat shared some publicity the Trail received in the Local Women's Guide (Autumn 2007) and the Milford Town Crier.
- The Friends website received an email from a 29 year old woman that was taken aback by a man taking pictures of her while pushing her baby stroller along the Trail. She reported it to the police. Pat plans to get some more information from her.
- A quarry hike was conducted in August by the Historical Commission.
- The Board of Directors voted to meet monthly on the third Saturday of the month.

• **Vice President – Tony Niro - absent**

Pat relayed Tony's report in his absence:

- Tony approves the mile marker project proposed by the Fire Department. He recommends a marker be placed every quarter mile.
- Tony is attempting to contact Henry Papuga of the Milford Water Company to speak to him about permission to plant saplings along their property line bordering the Trail (this is a potential project for Cub Scout Pack 32).
- Barbara Bradbury and Tony reviewed the sites for the granite benches with each of the donors, including those from the Eagle Scout project. He also spoke with the bench installer and all benches should be installed within two to three weeks.
- Mike B of the Parks Department approved all nine bench locations. He also gave his approval on weeding and planting bulbs at the commuter parking lot Trail head.
- Tony has volunteered to adopt a section of the Trail from the commuter parking lot to the Milford Pond dam. Mike B said this would be a big help. Tony needs one volunteer from the Friends to assist him once or twice a month. He thinks 2 people can maintain that section with two 4-hour work periods per month. He has all the necessary equipment.
- Tony also spoke to Mike about the kiosk sign and Mike thought placing it at the Route 495 ramp to Route 85 may be a good location, but nothing was finalized.
- Tony went to Signs Plus and spoke to Karen about making the kiosk sign. She will draft a design and pricing proposal.
- Tony attempted to contact Chris Chamberlain regarding his Eagle Scout project but has not yet received a return call.
- Tony is researching obtaining a copyright on all the town Trail Committee and the Friends publications.
- Tony gave some pictures on CD for the website.

• **Secretary – Nancy Wojick**

- Absent

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
October 2, 2007

- Treasurer – Tom Myatt
 - No changes of note since the last financial report.
 - Dave Cassinelli and I went to the bank to transfer signature authority from him to me.
 - Benches will cost \$6000.

Committee Reports

- Town of Milford Trail Committee – Reno DeLuzio
 - The Mass Highway public hearing on Phase 2 went very well. So did the Conservation Commission hearing the next evening.
 - Reno and our engineers did a site walk with National Grid and made some changes based on their suggestions. Will do another site walk with them tomorrow.
 - Reno drafted a job description for the Chairperson of the Maintenance and Enhancement Committee.
- Fundraising and Membership Committee – Barbara Bradbury and Tony Niro
 - Absent
- Maintenance and Enhancement Committee
 - Chair vacant (filled during New Business)
- Education and Special Activities Committee
 - Chair vacant

Old Business

- Pat will follow up on the thank you plaques for the major donors to the Trail grand opening.

New Business

- Pat displayed and walked through a Master Plan map of the trail showing the planned enhancements, such as the granite benches, bird and bat houses, etc. Reno suggested that Survey Control Plans he gave Tony be updated as well since those plans are more accurate in terms of scale & should become part of a permanent record.
- The Fire Department has expressed interest in putting mile markers on the trail. Deb suggested just painting the markers on the trail because that is what is commonly done on other trails. Deb has pictures of the Providence Trail mile markers she can share. Mile marker sticks would be stolen. It was suggested that every half mile be marked. It was agreed to ask the Fire Department representative(s) come to a meeting with some details.
- Alternatives Unlimited wishes to adopt a portion of trail to maintain. It was suggested that they will adopt the main entry at the Sacred Heart parking lot. They will look at the area and give their response at the next Friends meeting. Alternatives Unlimited has both volunteers and funds.
- Pat reviewed the items on the Wish List on the website. Several items are done or in progress. Pat asked if the membership has ideas for new items. She suggested bike racks. Reno suggested improving the viewing areas around Louisa Lake by removing some undergrowth to widen the view. It was also suggested to plant some trees between the Trail and the industrial buildings at Fino Field.
- Trail user counts: Reno reported that the National Honor Society of Milford High School signed up to do another trail count on October 13 and 14th. We're hoping for better weather that weekend than we had during the last count.
- Standing Committees
 - A motion was made and unanimously carried to dissolve all current standing committees so that the committees can be reorganized by forming new committees.
 - A motion was made and unanimously carried to create three new standing committees, each with a minimum of 3 and maximum of 7 members:
 - Maintenance and Enhancement Committee
 - Fundraising and Membership Committee
 - Education and Special Activities Committee.

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
October 2, 2007

- A motion was made and unanimously carried to approve Pat's nomination of Tony Niro and Barbara Bradbury as co-chairs of the Fundraising and Membership Committee.
- A motion was made and unanimously carried to approve Pat's nomination of Dave Cassinelli and Sheldon Moniz as co-chairs of the Maintenance and Enhancement Committee.
 - Pat will ask Linda Konvalinka if she is interested in chairing or co-chairing the Education and Special Activities Committee.
- In lieu of the former Safety Committee, John Edmondson, will be the liaison with the Milford Police and Fire Departments. John is also a member of the Trail board of directors.
- A motion was made and unanimously carried to adopt the email policy appended to these minutes.
- Pat will discuss with Margaret some ideas for improving the Trail website. It was suggested that the Friends bylaws and policies be put on the website. The Bruce Freeman Trail website was mentioned as a model trail website.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 6th at the Senior Center.

Adjournment

Motion was made and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 PM.

Friends Email Policy (adopted unanimously at this meeting under new business)

The Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail ("The Friends") collect email addresses from members whenever possible to facilitate communication to individual members, groups of members, and the total membership.

The use of the member email addresses shall be only for Friends and Trail related communications. No officer, director, or member shall utilize the collected email addresses for any communications not related to the Friends or the Trail.

Access to the collected email addresses shall be limited to those officers, directors, and members with a need to utilize them, as determined by the Board of Directors.

Any email to a group of members shall have the email addresses contained in a "blind cc" so that the email addresses are not exposed to all members. As a matter of convenience, a group may select to not follow this practice for themselves if all members of the group are in agreement. For example, the officers may agree as a rule not to use a blind cc when corresponding among themselves.

The email addresses of the membership shall not be disclosed to any external parties for any purpose, Trail related or not.