

## Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail

### November 9, 2010 Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM. There were 8 members present; no guests.

#### Reno DeLuzio-Chair of the Milford Upper Charles Committee

Reno's report (Reno brought an aerial photo diorama of the Phase 3 Interim Path (the "missing link") :

1. Trail Committee – due to growing absenteeism at meetings, Reno asked members to re-affirm their commitment to the trail committee in order to minimize chasing members to approve invoices, to vote on important decisions votes, etc. Of the 5 most delinquent members, 2 have resigned, 2 have re-committed & 1 has not responded.
2. Phase 2 construction:
  - 65% complete, no show stoppers, striping & 2<sup>nd</sup> coat of asphalt has been applied on the Phase 2B segment.
  - Phase 2 A along Rte 85: The Design Engineers missed several areas of timber rail fencing along steep areas. The additional fencing will add approximately \$15K to the contract bid price.
  - Two pieces of Milford Pink Granite are required for the trail monuments. Milford Pink is no longer being mined. The contractor, with the assistance of the Town Engineer was able to locate two pieces (one in the woods off Route 85 and the other on the grassy area at the Louis Lake parking lot).
3. Phase 3 Interim Path :
  - The October 2010 Town Meeting unanimously approved \$40K for environmental permitting and final design.
  - Preliminary designs were incomplete when the Selectmen proposed an alternate route (with bike lanes) to be constructed over this segment which created the "missing link". The Trail Committee engaged the services of Beals and Thomas to complete the design plans and provide a construction cost estimate. Preliminary estimates indicate that construction would cost around \$500K if the Town went out to bid.
  - Lack of drainage maintenance over the years has caused wetlands to be created which now requires the Town to secure environmental permitting before construction can begin. The Trail Committee engaged the services of Guerriere and Halnon (\$26K) to prepare all the plans and documents required to secure local and State environmental permits
  - Zain Ridge developer is interested in participating in the construction if the Planning Board grants him relief from the number of over 55 age restricted units in the Zain Ridge development.
4. Phase 1 Maintenance: The Trail Committee has been concerned that the locks on the bollards and gates are becoming inoperable. The gate locks have to work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year since these are the major access points for emergency vehicles. Locksmith recommendation is that the locks have to be exercised and lubricated on a regular basis. Mike Brescianni said he will get his crew to do this task. Reno suggested the Friends institute a volunteer program to regularly test the locks and report any inoperable locks to Mike Brescianni (and follow up on corrective action).

## **Officer Reports**

### **Dave Cassinelli – President**

\*Marie Clemente has officially resigned due to time constraints. She will stay on until a replacement is found. There will be an election at the next regular meeting. The new Vice-President will hold the office until the next regular election of officers in September.

\*Sheldon Moniz has an estimate of \$950.00 for timber rail fence to address safety issue near Louisa Lake. Reno suggested the Highway Department could put square curbing in place.

### **Marie Clemente – Vice President**

\*No report

### **Tom Myatt – Treasurer**

\*Absent

### **Nancy Wojick – Secretary**

\*Absent

## **Committee Reports**

### **Dick Flocks – Maintenance and Enhancement**

\*Dick stated that Mike Bresciani has plans to talk to the disability commission regarding their requests for improvements.

\*The Parks Department has completed the cleanup of graffiti.

## **Old Business**

Pat Rosenthal provided an update on the website development. Comments and feedback from the test site were forwarded to Greg Lamb. Additional feedback collected at the meeting included:

- Add new mileage notes to map page
- Add town lines – Hopkinton and Holliston to the map
- Route 85 parking not listed
- Pictures need labels, and there are too many – some editing is needed.
- Suggestion made for “deep links” to enable drilling into pages for archives, etc.

## **New Business**

\*Linda Morley asked if she could “adopt” one of the natural granite benches. Dave suggested tabling it until the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00.