

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail

Minutes of the General Meeting February 5, 2013

- President Pat Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.
- A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the minutes as amended (spelling error) of the January meeting. Seconded and passed unanimously.
- 10 members and 1 non-member were present.

No guest speakers

President, Pat Rosenthal

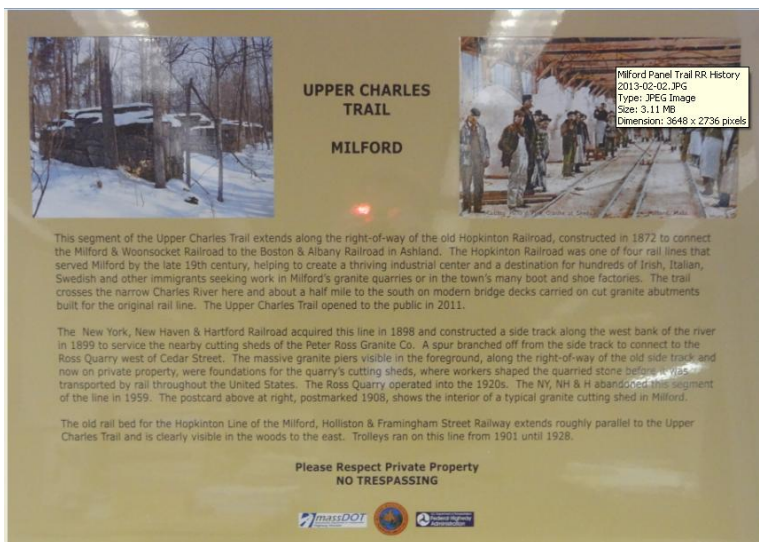
Bethany Church (Compassion NE) submitted an application to be an adopt-a-trail sponsor

You, Inc. Christine Deddario submitted an application for adopt-a-trail.

There have been general requests for plowing the trail in the winter months. The policy is currently not to plow, however, the Friends could advocate one way or the other. General discussion with recommendation for additional research on how other trails handle this

Healthy Futures Group associated with The Milford-Whitinsville Regional Hospital would like to sponsor a "Walk for Health" event, maybe in September or October along the trail

MA Highway is working on a revised historical interpretative panel to replace the current sign that was found to have a few errors (This is located on the section headed north toward Hopkinton.)



A new memorial bench request from Donna Arthur was received & acknowledged

Trail Committee , Reno Deluzio - The Walden Woods developer should be doing some clean-up for phase III, the missing link. Reno will keep communicating with Town Engineer (Mike Santoro, retiring) and the Town Planner.

Vice President, David Cassinelli - No particular report, as most activity is under M & E.

Secretary, Margaret Myatt - Membership is low, at 67. Average number of members is typically 75-85.

Treasurer, Tom Myatt – Not present, but Margaret reported there is no particular news.

Website Committee, Teresa Mazzarelli – There are seven sponsors, and five more coming. Everyone agreed this is great news. March 1st is deadline for sponsor page. The web site is being embellished with stories and updates include ng adopt-a-trail and memorial bench location maps.. A proposal to add video clips was positively received. A college student specializing in this area has agreed to provide this service. The anticipated cost might be ~ \$100-\$200.

Adopt-a-Trail Sections were discussed with a few anticipated changes as new adopters are added & current adopters are confirmed No revisions to the adopt-a-trail forms have been made as yet

Maintenance and Enhancements – The Boy Scout (Thomas Hancox) is continuing to make progress on his Eagle Scout project, the speed barrier near the Senior Center parking lot section and should be completed this spring.

Donna Arthur wants to sponsor an accessible bench. She had requested a Louisa Lake location, but it was suggested that a better location might be near the CVS kiosk due to abundance of benches already located in the Louis Lake section. There was much discussion about additional bench locations.

Adopt-a-Trail discussions included votes on specific adopter locations. . It was moved and seconded to give Consigli section 10, (used to be Midtown Fitness, who wants to stop) You, Inc. section 9, Compassion, Inc. section 7. Dick Flocks mentioned that is should be confirmed that Midtown Fitness no longer wants section 10, so Consigli on section 10 is conditional. Passed unanimously.

Now, there are three sections left, 15 sections adopted.

Nancy Wojick of M & E was absent, but is proposing a new sign for kiosk by Rte. 109 at CVS. Two types, a light one and dark one. The light choice was unanimous. Expense is to be quoted. Motion exists for signage, so this expense

should be covered. It will be metallic, non-fading. Also, “emergency 911 If you see something, say something,” signs proposed for addition on kiosks at ~\$20. “You are here” stickers for maps will be added in warmer weather. The new adopt-a-trail Mason sign was vandalized, the new sign is ready to be installed & will need a new pole.

Walden Woods and the Staupe family signs are ready to be posted. Committee will determine where signs will be placed.

There was a meeting with Mike Bresciani in December to share some of the erosion, drainage proposals as well as outline a process for greater collaboration. Additional follow up is needed. Trees were down at Hopkinton entrance, and the Parks Dept took care of that. The Water Co noticed new bird houses on Clark’s Island & thru the Park’s Dept wanted to know if the Friends had installed them. No one from the Friends knows anything about them.

Jeff Howard of the Trail Committee reported a washout area on Beaver Street & submitted a detailed email regarding some signage alignment issues on the Rte 109 section. Reno will follow up on these items.

Light sensors on Beaver Street need to be adjusted. It takes too long on east side of street, so cars seem to just ignore the flashing pedestrian crossing lights. Several reports were received about the Dilla St. lights not working This continues to be addressed by the town engineer, Mike Santoro following up on this. Reno pointed out that Phase II needs should be funneled to Mass Highway because they still have not signed off on engineering. He encouraged people to continue reporting the times and days when lights are not working as expected

Old Business

Dave is checking with the Brett Staupe family on adopt-a-trail on the Beaver St & Zain Circle stretch for the possible inclusion of another adopter in that area.

New Business

Reno moved to spend up to \$200 on trail videos from Josh Poirier, probably three videos. Dave seconded. Unanimous approval

Open House– There was an initial meeting with John Higley of Sherborn. Discussion led to a proposed annual event – 1st annual Upper Charles Trail Symposium. There will be attendees from the five towns of the Upper Charles Trail, from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, with David Loutzenheiser of MPAC as a guest speaker

providing an overview of the regional trail with the focus on the entire Upper Charles trail. It will be held on March 5th and will include meet & greet, updates & presentations from all of the Upper Charles Trail towns and recognition of Milford's sponsors & adopters. Light refreshments will be provided

The next meeting will be on March 5th and will be the symposium. It will begin at 6:30 with meet-and-greet.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.