

## Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail – Open Monthly Meeting – August 6, 2013

There were 18 members & 3 non-members in attendance. Meeting began with introductions at 7:05pm.

Guest Speakers: Adrienne Currin, Territory Manager

Planet Aid – just moved into Milford, business abuts the trail on Sumner St

- Sponsor on website
- looking to adopt a portion of the trail “want to be good neighbors” (maybe shuffle some of the adopted portions around so they can be by their business)
- 14 years in business - 501 (c)(3) non-profit – collect clothes, small toys/stuffed animals to recycle – sold to vendors for a profit

Brian Dignazio

Boy Scouts of America (Bob Dignazio – Scout leader?)

- Eagle Project – one-sided kiosk at the Hopkinton end of the trail near the parking lot (right where the gate opens)
- approved – long process – approval from the Friends, from the troop, then boy scout council - have an idea of what it's going to look like, emphasis on being wheel chair accessible – researched about the standards for a wheelchair accessible sign
- should be done by the end of the summer
- Virginia Brenna (Make-A-Wish foundation) – reimburse the full project
- the Friends approved the project - Pat signed as beneficiary on form

John Edmondson –

- concerns about dogs not being leashed – contacted the animal control officer and made her aware of the concern and asked her to keep an eye on it.
- Kids using the trail to go to the quarries, age of kids a concern? Contacted police to keep an eye out
- police are aware, patrolling
- will try and get a commitment from a police officer to come to the next meeting

Board of Directors/September Elections

- September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting – Four officer position are up for election
- accepting nominations (president, VP, treasurer, secretary (minutes, renewing memberships))

President: Quick Updates:

- Brush clearing: studies along the area of the dam – environmental concern – parks/town in charge of that – mixed opinions on how it looks
- malfunctions with the rt. 85 traffic signals not working – solar panels being blocked by trees (Parks dept. cut back), batteries/cells – reported again, they were working on fixing and seem to be functioning
- Beaver St lights – facing same direction – Friends will notify
- Michelle Simpson – contacted Friends re: fundraiser on the trail – Paws for New England/ MSPCA , referred to Town Admin for more info
- Maintained equipment – documenting who has what (keys for gates, yellow paint, paint kits, maps, leaf blower, etc)

M&E Committee: Dave Cassinelli/Nancy -

- Persons' Bench – been in place- but a new engraving that has raised a concern re possible trademark which requires special processes

Ask Mike about possibly being notified of any new happenings near the trail (benches, gazebo etc)

Tom Myatt: Treasurer

- started with \$15k for Fiscal year- \$4800 income - spent \$3100
- money – website development – trail signage
- approx. \$14,000 for trail spending left

Theresa Mazzarelli: Social Network Committee

- Memorial Benches – story behind each bench
- event/fundraising – table at Louisa Lake / Fino Field
- trail clean-up / proposed membership drive event during fall cleanup
- A trail for all seasons – 365 days/year

Rob & Liz Davis: Vineyard Church-

- Running Club –Proposed Running by the book – recreational run
- Volunteered to help hand out fliers at an event - do face painting and balloons

New Business

- Request was made to follow up on some grant monies awarded to the Milford Police for trail safety purposes
- Motion was made & passed unanimously for up to \$1500 for the Ricciutti memorial bench
  - o Bench monies are paid for by the donor to the friends
- Motion was made to renew the milford.org domain & hosting costs for \$19.86 for 2 years & \$54.60 for the web hosting services for 1 year (total of \$74.46) to reimburse Margaret Myatt – passed unanimously
- Motion was made & passed unanimously for \$25 Milford TV membership fee amount to reimburse Mike Morrison. Membership fee allows use of TV equipment
- Laura Scirocco – raised awareness of the recent Milford / Foxwood Casino host agreement announcement as a member of the NEMBA (New England Mountain Bike Association) & a Milfordian. NEMBA owns 47 acres that would directly about the proposed casino location. She is strongly advocating for various groups within the town to provide any & all mitigation ideas that can be included in the

- host agreement. Topic was deferred for follow up with Reno DeLuzio & the Milford Trail Committee after discussion & several ideas:  
lighting, security webcams, building trail extensions, environmental natural composting restroom facility, etc
- Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm. Next meeting is Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm

Meeting minutes submitted by Katie Siciak & Pat Rosenthal