

Minutes

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail

Minutes for the Open Monthly Meeting – 09/06/16

President Mike Morrison called to order at 7:05 pm

In Attendance

Members: Mike Morrison, Julie R. Morales, Tom Myatt, Julianne Bonvino, Guru Khalsa-Bob, Nancy Wojick, Pat Rosenthal, Bill Kavanaugh, Tom Reardon, Catherine Guido, Dick Flooks, Gary Bonetti, Margaret Myatt

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Nancy moved to approve the minutes of August meeting, Bill seconded, passed unanimously.

Updates presented by Mike Morrison, President

- Mike received an update from Harold Rhodes on the accessibility project. Planning phase done, final plans were sent to Highway Department. The tactile plates would have been the biggest cost, but the Highway Department has these, and will cover the cost. There will be a \$500-1000 recording fee for trail description for audio tour, \$1000 fee Beals & Thomas for engineering, total \$2000. The final plans have been approved by selectman. He will provide the final budget list. A question was asked about parking lot expansion and if it is part of that project. **Action:** Mike will contact Harold to follow up on when work will begin on accessibility project, and the status of the parking lot expansion.
- Met with Mike Bresciani and the property owner to remove part of fence at Cook & Hayward Streets. Owner has approved removal of fence. Mike B was concerned about doing this now in dry conditions, because of fear of sparking a brush fire.
- Mike researched mobile giving for making a donation while on the trail via cell phone. Mike is meeting with companies for demos in the coming weeks. The three companies are Give by Cell, MobileCause, Mgive.com. MobileCause is the most reasonable so far with a 2.5% charge. Pat mentioned we need to make sure privacy is protected for those donating.
- Area attraction sign on 495: There is a form to fill out for the state, fee of \$250 per sign, and annual fee (\$1200) waived for nonprofit status, Margaret noted that if there are excess funds in the disability commission project, maybe they would cover initial cost. Signs Plus is not on the approved sign list, so we don't know what the cost of a sign would be. Also, additional signage probably would be needed to direct people to the trail. Pat added that other towns should share the cost once the 25 mile loop is complete. **Action:** Mike will get more info and Margaret will follow up with Harold to get sign info.

Updates presented by Julie R. Morales, Vice President

- Julie updated the group on the new website. The person she was working with has left the company which has caused the delay. She had a conference call and was promised the site will be available for all to look at by the end of next week. Julie negotiated four pre-populated forms on the new site: adopter, sponsor, membership and one more specialty form we can change depending on what our current needs are. Margaret asked if we should renew hosting thru GoDaddy, as it expires October 4. The new site should be up by then so we don't need to renew GoDaddy. **Action:** Julie will demo the new website at the next meeting.

Update from Tom Myatt, Treasurer

- August Treasurer Report:

Total Income: \$2921.47
Total Expense: \$3,188.30
Closing Balance: \$18,916.61
Open Spending Authorizations: \$10,238.62
Uncommitted Available Funds: \$8,677.99

Open Spending Authorizations:

Authorized: \$13,850.00
Expended: \$ 3,611.38
Remaining: \$10,238.62

- Tom noted we have not made a motion for the Nargi bench. **Motion:** Allocate \$1545 for the purchase and installation for the Nargi memorial bench. All in favor, motion approved.

Update presented by Julianne Bonvino, Secretary

- One new member in August, current total 67. Hannaford bag tally was \$56 for the month of August. We should receive a check from Hannaford by the end of September.

Updates:

- Mike presented Reno DeLuzio's report regarding signage along Veterans Memorial Drive and Fino Field intersection. Mike proposed that the signs be double-sided so they can be seen by all. Pat questioned the stop sign on Veterans Memorial. There should be a stop sign at the supermarket exit instead of on Veterans Memorial. The one-way sign will be removed and replaced with an arrow and also a "one way - use other side". **Action:** Mike will speak with Reno to suggest rotating the current stop sign on Veterans Memorial for people exiting supermarket, the two-sided signs at Fino Field, and to clarify if the stop sign is for cars or trail users.
- Sponsorship update: New sponsor CJM Construction, \$200 donation. This donation will cover them until March 2018. **Action:** Nancy will send Ranees Garments image to Julie.
- Adoption update: nothing from cub scouts yet, no adoption sections available.
- Trail talk update: Scheduling meeting with Milford TV for episode focused around Milford walking/jogging group.
- Nancy updated the group on the signage on Main Street. It has to be reviewed by police, and the state mandates where signs are placed.
- **Election of Board of Directors:** Mike read the responsibilities of board members from the website. Nancy nominated Guru Khalsa-Bob, Pat seconded, all in favor, approved. Nancy nominated Catherine Guido, Julie seconded, all in favor, approved. Guru nominated Nancy Wojick, Bill seconded, all in favor, approved.
- Catherine discussed the mix up with Milford Junior Women's Club. They thought they were a sponsor but they are adopters. Matter resolved.

New Business

- Mike followed up on quotes/snippets from sponsors/adopters on why they support the trail. Nancy asked if we were going to remove sponsors who haven't paid. All expire March 31. Dick volunteered to follow up with sponsors to renew. We only have 3 new sponsors: Royal Thermal, CJM, Ranees Garments. A suggestion was made to have a sponsor of the month for extra attention for the sponsors.

Old Business:

- Pat asked for a status of the dike work for the outstanding benches. **Action:** Nancy will ask Scott for status.
- Fall Clean up: We will give adopters a two-week window October 24-November 7. Pat made a **Motion:** Fall clean up for adopters between October 24-November 7, public clean up November 5, rain date November 12 Julie seconded, all approved. Pat suggested getting word out via an article which she will draft, instead of social media announcements.

Next Meeting is Tuesday, October 4th at the Milford Senior Center.

Nancy made a motion to adjourn at 8:41 pm.