

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
October 3, 2006

Call to Order

Margaret Myatt called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM. 7 members were present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the 9/5/2006 meeting.

Officer Reports

- Secretary – Tom Myatt:
The membership count has increased from 59 at the September meeting to 65: 33 Bronze, 17 Silver, 8 Gold, and 7 Pathfinder.
- Treasurer – Dave Cassinelli: absent
- Vice President – Tony Niro:
 - Chris Chamberlain, the Eagle Scout, gave Tony the final draft of his plan for the kiosk he will build for the trail. Tony will pass it on to the Parks Department. Estimated cost is about \$500. Deb Walther volunteered to solicit funds for it from her company.
 - Tony will get some more current pictures of the trail for the website.
 - Tony will give Sheldon the rest of the money for the remaining 10 t-shirts he has.
 - Tony is taking some pictures of the trail that can use landscaping.
 - Tony has more brochures available and will make more business cards.
 - Deb Walther suggested putting an ad on the back of the business cards for Milford Bike and getting them to fund their printing. She will follow up.
 - Tony said Nancy Wojick attended the Holliston festival and handed out 75 brochures.
 - Bob Buckley is working on making a map of the trail without property lines.
 - At the Town Trail Committee, members went over Phase 2. It is going well financially. National Grid is still a problem in terms of granting a lease instead of a license.
- President – Margaret Myatt:
 - Not much activity because trail has still not been turned over the town. For example, the garden club wants to plant bulbs along the trail but cannot.
 - Nancy has a draft of corporate fundraising letter and new version of the logo.
 - Nancy had a conversation with Bernie Stock at Karl Bright about liability and Bernie will make a presentation at the trail.
 - Mark Fitzgerald, the Eagle Scout who presented at the last meeting, plans to return with an updated presentation at the November meeting.

Committee Reports

- Special Events Committee – Pat Rosenthal
 - Pat presented a wish list for approval by the general membership.
 - An amendment to strike the “Installation of Waterless Composting Toilet” was made and unanimously carried.
 - The motion to approve the list with the amendment was made and unanimously carried.
 - At the Milford town festival, the volunteers manning the booth passed out an Interest Group list and received about 30 signatures. Suggested having table for Milford Trail at senior center, bike shop, etc. Suggestion was made to have group events advertised on the website. Still open question about what can be done without town ownership of the trail and the open liability question.
 - Agreed that Pat should proceed with getting events going for which she has a responsible leader in place.

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- It was moved and unanimously carried that Saturday, 11/18, be the next trail clean up date. Note: It was decided after the meeting not to have the clean up until spring because the trail is currently in good shape.
- Pat has Women's Self Defense group – see flyer.
- Pat has calls into INSPIRE but has not got any response yet
- Pat is attempting to contact Mass Audubon to see what they can provide.
- Pat has a call into Mass Wildlife.
- Pat noticed an advertisement in the paper where the Friends of the Library is doing a presentation on bird watching that we could connect with.

- Fund Raising Committee – chair vacant

- Safety Committee – John Edmondson: absent

- Publicity Committee – Nancy Wojcik
 - A variety of media and other communication vehicles were utilized to publicize the trail clean up day:
 - Milford Daily News printed an article on our becoming a 501(c)3 organization and announcing the cleanup day based on our press release. They followed up with a great interview with Margaret that ended up as the banner headline story on the front page.
 - The event also was listed in the Calendar pages of the Milford paper, the Sunday Milford paper and the Boston Globe West pages for the 2 weeks preceding the event.
 - There was radio coverage on WMRC provided by Margaret's interview with Ed Thompson
 - We were on the Community events "page" on Channel 8 cable TV.
 - It was posted on the Friends website.
 - There was a postcard mailed to all paid members of the Friends.
 - Posters were displayed in all of the supermarkets, Library and the Bike Shop.
 - Final step was a Letter to Editor thanking all the sponsors for their support.
 - Trail Logo:
 - After reviewing the materials from the Milford Library's logo contest, Nancy's feeling was that this project was more complicated and had a longer lead time than we had anticipated. After reviewing other Bike Trail logos, the committee decided that the logo currently being used by Holliston for their Upper Charles River Trail promotional activities was attractive and perhaps the Friends could use it. Nancy has been in contact with them and still waiting for details.
 - A question was raised about the Friends having a more widespread presence on other web sites. Nancy will follow up on this.

- Maintenance Committee – Jennene Pasquarosa
 - Give names of anyone interested in maintenance to Jennene.
 - Tom will forward Reno's original list of interested people to Jennene.
 - It was agreed that the Friends should get from the Parks Dept their thoughts on what types of trail maintenance they would like the Friends to perform.
 - We will select a November date for another trail clean up at the next meeting.
 - Jennene will coordinate people in cleaning up.

- Environmental Education Committee – Linda Konvalinka (absent)
 - No report.

Old Business

- All topics were covered under either officer or committee reports.

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New Business

Next Meeting

Motion was made and unanimously carried to have the next meeting at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, November 14th at the Senior Center. Meeting will not be on November 7th because it is Election Day.

Adjournment

Motion was made and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 PM.