

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail  
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting  
April 3, 2007

**Call to Order**

Pat Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:17 PM. 10 members and 3 visitors were present.

**Approval of Minutes**

- A motion was made and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the 3/6/2007 meeting.

**Officer Reports**

- President – Pat Rosenthal
  - Website has been upgraded: added a sponsor page, calendar, and the Trail email.
  - Email has been received looking for directions to trail (person staying at the Sheraton)
  - Pat has a conversation with Lisa Jackson at Hopkinton Trail Club; they are working on their portion of the trail.
  - Mid-town donated \$2000 to the town.
  - A person from Benjamin Moore would like to help us with some funds or paint for some signage. Working on a grant application with Milford National.
- Vice President – Tony Niro
  - Tony went to the Troop 18 Boy Scout meeting. Three Eagle Scout candidates are interested in doing something for trail.
  - Bob Buckley will provide a new map of the trail. Looks great so far. Will come out soon.
  - Tony is working on finishing his letter to the chief of police.
- Secretary – Tom Myatt
  - No change in the membership count since the last meeting: 80: 40 Bronze, 18 Silver, 11 Gold, 10 Pathfinder, and 1 Trailblazer.
  - Thank you/receipts were sent to new members who joined and members who renewed last month.
  - Membership renewal letters were distributed to those whose membership anniversary was in March.
- Treasurer – Dave Cassinelli - absent
  - Pat reported for Dave that we have \$7,325 in the bank.
  - A gift for the trail of \$2000 was given directly to town. The selectmen placed the funds in a Parks Dept gift account.

**Committee Reports**

- Trail Committee Report – Reno DeLuzio
  - Mass Highway sent Reno a letter saying that all work should be done by 5/1 and that 6/16 is a good date for the GO celebration.
  - Remaining work includes uncompleted and unsatisfactorily, such as poor soil for some areas that were seeded. The remaining work should not hold up grand opening even if not done.
  - MA Fish & Wildlife ok – no endanger species, etc.
  - Still waiting for MA Highway to a schedule public hearing, hopefully in late April or early May.
  - Need approval from local agencies (such as Police and Fire Departments).
  - Reno will meet with designers on Friday about some issues on the Senior Center spur. Some owners have encroached upon town land. Trying not to disturb their backyards.
  - There is Capital Improvement Committee meeting tonight. Additional land rights are needed for drainage. There will be no cost for these acquisitions but they will have to be approved by the Town Meeting in May.
  - The Phase 2 design is 25% done and submitted for approval to a battery of agencies. There may be a public hearing in April.
  - National Grid remains the major issue (99-year license by National Grid versus lease by federal officials). Congressman Neal's office and Representative Fernandez are involved.
  - Still budgeted about \$4 million for Phase 2.

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- Construction will start the earliest on Phase 2 about 18 months from now.
- Special Events Committee – Pat Rosenthal
  - Pat reviewed the project plan, draft schedule of events, and budget.
  - School bands unlikely, Plan B will be MPAC. Suggest that we ask the schools again
  - DJ from Boston Party Makers supplied quote of \$450. Highly recommended by Cheryl Ann Shea. Needs a table, power, and canopy.
  - Silvers Sneakers will do whatever is requested. Intent is for them to lead the march.
  - Alternatives Unlimited will bring suggestions to the next meeting. Can bring lots of volunteers. Will do water stations. Also offer grants.
  - About 50 vendor solicitation letters have been sent out.
    - Uxbridge First Night group – sell hotdogs and hamburgers, etc.; also will provide 2 10x10 tents and tables
    - Midtown Family Fitness
    - John Smith Sports bubble
    - Milford Historical
    - Family Network
    - American Karate & Fitness – 2 demos
    - Olympia sports declined
  - Need volunteers to go to Ace Hardware to talk tents – Sheldon will get prices.
  - Need volunteers to make vendor phone call follow ups.
  - Two 3-ft X 8-ft publicity banners. Can also use sandwich board signs to provide directions.
  - John will confirm police will assist with traffic control and parking direction.
  - Sacred Heart parking lot will be available.
  - Pat will talk to Muffin about getting volunteers to help with stuffing envelopes.
  - Golf carts – needs two 4-person carts.
  - Reno asked about an honor guard like they had at Abasett valley. Deb Walther will call the local National Guard about doing it.
  - Antique fire engines – Sheldon working on the details.
  - Not got anyone yet for Bike Safety Demo. Suggested EMS or local bike shop.
  - Milford Police have 50 helmets to give away.
- Fund Raising Committee – Barbara Bradbury and Tony Niro
  - Two letters have been completed – one for the larger donors and one for more modest donors.
  - Motion was made and carried with 2 opposed to have one version of the fund raising letter that will be distributed both to small and large potential contributors.
  - The committee has compiled a list of 200 or more vendors for the grand openings.
  - The committee has list of donors, including large donors (over \$1000.00)
  - The committee had a dialog with a potential donor who agreed verbally to give a \$1,000 donation if can get a name on a plaque. Plaque will go on the object donated.
- Dog Education Committee – Nancy Mullins
  - The committee and Mike Bresciani identified several points for placement of 2 to 3 dog clean up workstations.
- Safety Committee – chair vacant
- Publicity Committee – Nancy Wojick
  - Signs Plus will donate signs for the grand opening.
  - A Trail Grand Opening notice has been published on the cable television bulletin board.
  - Nancy has a schedule for publicity and is trying to schedule a radio interview with Ed Thompson.
- Maintenance Committee – Jennene Pasquarosa: absent

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- Environmental Education Committee – Linda Konvalinka
  - The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup is April 21<sup>st</sup>, 9am to 12pm. Linda is organizing a group to clean up from Sacred Heart to Louisa Lake. People can get a shirt if they sign up 3 weeks before. She contacted the Girl Scouts and will contact other groups.
  - People should meet at Fino Field instead of Louisa Lake because fishing derby runs until 10 (hour overlap).
  - Linda is trying to get Boy and Girl Scouts to volunteer, and to get volunteer life guards.
  - The dirtiest part of the trail is near Fino field, on the other side of chain link fence.
  - Hopkinton Trail club – Linda will ask them to volunteer at Thursday meeting.
  - American Hiking Society sent some posters and will put the Milford trail on their website.

**Old Business**

- Motion was made and unanimously carried to purchase both General Liability and Directors and Officers insurance. General Liability insurance will be purchased from Russo Insurance for approximately \$250. Directors and Officers insurance will be purchased from Karl Bright Insurance for approximately \$750.

**New Business**

- Motion was made and unanimously carried to implement a publication schedule for the trail website. Updates must be submitted by 13<sup>th</sup> of the month for approval at the following Board of Directors and General Membership meetings.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center.

**Adjournment**

Motion was made and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 PM.