

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
April 1, 2008

Call to Order

- Pat Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. 10 members and 6 visitors were present

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2008 meeting.

Presentation of Awards

- A Gift Certificate was presented to Barbara Bradbury in recognition of her outstanding contributions as one of the Fund Raising Chairs for 2007. (Tony Niro, currently serving as one of our Directors, was the other.) Barbara has resigned this position due to other demands on her time.
- A plaque was presented to Don Cunningham and Liz Rae from Waters Corporation to thank them for their generous donation which will be used to fund one of the kiosks for the trail.

Guest Presentation

- Sgt. David Sacco will act as our safety liaison with the Milford Police Department.
 - Sgt. Sacco said that he has applied for bicycle helmets (125) which will be available to community groups for distribution.
 - There will be police motorcycle patrols approximately every hour on the 4-12 shift. There will also be an Incident Log that he will share with the trail members.
 - The enhanced 911 system is in place and cell phones can be used to report problems.
 - There is RAD (Rape Aggressive Defense) training available through the Community Assistance Program.
 - Safety suggestions included always walking with a partner, have a cell phone and whistle with you. A permit to carry mace is available for \$25.00. If something does not “feel right” do not hesitate to call 911.

Officer Reports

Pat Rosenthal – President

- No Report

Dave Cassinelli – Vice President

- No Report

Nancy Wojick – Secretary

- In Nancy’s absence Pat Rosenthal read the Secretary’s report:
 - Current Active Membership:64
 - 31 Bronze
 - 17 Silver
 - 8 Gold
 - 8 Pathfinder
 - 2008 Membership Dues for 22 total \$775.00 as of 3/31/2008
 - 10 Bronze
 - 6 Silver
 - 3 Gold
 - 3 Pathfinder
 - Renewal status:
 - 1 from February – due to be dropped
 - 3 second renewal letters for March to go out
 - 8 first renewal letters for April to go out

Tom Myatt – Treasurer

**Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail
Treasurer Report - Quarter 1, 2008**

Milford Federal Saving & Loan Checking Account

Opening Balance 12,024.70

Income

PayPal Transfer (funds from prior year)	50.00
Donation	
Anonymous	15.00
Interest Inc-Interest Income	2.98
Membership Fees	775.00
T-Shirt Sales	<u>40.00</u>
Total Income	882.98

Expenses

Appreciation	127.58
PayPal Fees	7.13
Trail Improve	
Bat & Bird Houses	<u>175.00</u>
Total Expense	309.71

Net Change 573.27

Closing Balance 12,597.97

PayPal Balance From Prior Years 255.75

Total Funds 3/31/2008 12,853.72

- We have expenses from the Family Fun Fair and up to \$225 for the Scout kiosk as our only outstanding items at this time.
- Our IRS statement has been filed for 2007.
- Tom will continue to investigate higher interest options for our money.

Committee Reports

- Milford Trail Committee – Reno DeLuzio
 - 75% design report for Phase 2 information is in the hands of MassHighway for final review.
 - Environmental Permitting is waiting for report on Wood Turtle assessment and also for the MA EPA acceptance of environmental impact of the Milford section for both Phase 1 and Phase 2. This is holding up the Conservation Commission approval.
 - Details are coming together for parking and bike rack at the Friendly's lot.
 - Construction for Phase 2 should begin in the spring of 2009

- Maintenance and Enhancement – Dave Cassinelli
 - The Adopt a Trail Program is “up and running”. All forms are available on the website. There has been interest from Alternatives Unlimited, The Midtown Family Fitness Center and the Masons. There has also been a request to make the documents into Word format so that they can be filled out on-line.

- Education and Activities – Christine Haslam
 - The Family Fun Fair was very successful. There was a lot of traffic at the booth and we got one new Bronze membership.
 - A Full Moon Hike was held
 - The Easter Egg Hunt was a very big hit! There were 60 children and everyone had a wonderful time. Pictures are available on the website.
 - There was also a “Dog Walk”.
 - Christine learned that both the Easter Egg Hunt and the Dog Walk were attended by people who had “Googled” these types of events.
 - Upcoming are the Bird and Bat House tour on the 5th and a Bike Ride on the 12th.
 - Dave Cassinelli volunteered to coordinate a Clean-up Day from 9-12 on Saturday the 19th. A motion was made and adopted to authorize up to \$100.00 for supplies. We will also give away free T shirts.
 - Tom Myatt will work on getting an ST-2 Tax Exempt Form for our use when purchasing supplies.
 - Christine will check with Linda Konvalinka on the scheduling of a vernal pool hike.
 - A motion was made and accepted to spend up to \$200.00 on the new brochures.

- Publicity – Julie Rosenthal
 - The publicity from the cable Channel 8 and WMRC has been very good, and the Milford Town Crier has also listed our events. The Milford Daily News has not been responsive.
 - Julie asked that any information that needs to go to the media be provided to her by the 7th of each month in order for her to meet deadlines.

New Business

- Trail Usage Counts
 - Dave Cassinelli will coordinate the upcoming tally on Tuesday May 3, and Saturday May 6. All counts will be done at Louisa Lake this year. He distributed sign-up sheets and will ask for additional volunteers as needed. The information is gathered on trails throughout the state and should help in our quest for better signalization.

- Insurance Policies
 - The Board of Directors voted to renew the officers and directors insurance. A motion was made and passed to spend up to \$900.00 to purchase this insurance. It was not felt that we needed to purchase the liability insurance this year as we are not having any large event.

- Advertising Policy for Website
 - The Board voted to review and revise as needed the ads that are on the website. A motion was made and passed to charge \$100.00 per year for an ad on the site. This applies to all current and new advertisers.

- Tom Frost Ad
 - Tom has proposed that he donate his webhosting fee of \$130.00 to the Friends in exchange for another year with his ad for his Metrowest Water Garden business. A motion was made and passed to allow it for this year while we review the actual cost of this service and our need for it.

- New Cable TV Show
 - Mike Shain contacted Dave Cassinelli regarding a new community TV show called “Eye on Milford” that he is starting. He would like to interview Dave and Pat Rosenthal about the trail on the first show. Please check the Channel 8 listings for times.
- Dog Station Bags
 - Mike Bresciani from the Parks Department has asked the Friends to buy more bags for the cleanup stations. A motion was made and passed to spend \$220.00 for 6,000 bags.
- Map update for Adopt A Trail Program
 - Dave Cassinelli would like to get an enhanced map of the trail on which he can pinpoint all enhancements: i.e. benches, mulch beds, Barker Steel’s Bike, etc. Reno has a request in with the Trail Committee’s consultant to get this for the Friend’s use.

Old Business

- Placement of Louisa Lake Kiosk
 - Sheldon reported that he has the dimensions for the kiosk that is being constructed at Blackstone Valley Tech. The anticipated completion date is in 3 weeks. The unit is “massive” and will be delivered and installed in sections. Mike Bresciani from the Parks Department is installing the foundation so needs to coordinate closely with Blackstone Valley. It is likely that special equipment and extra manpower will be required. A motion was made and passed that the \$700.00 donated by Waters Corporation for this project be made available at this time for lumber and installation expenses.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday May 6th at the Senior Center

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM