

## **Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail**

### **Minutes of the General Meeting January 8, 2013**

- President Pat Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
- A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the December meeting, with an edit to delete the incomplete sentence regarding a motion about granite bench expenditures.
- 10 members and 3 guests were present.

#### **Guest Reports:**

**Reno:** Contractor for Phase 3 should start tree cutting in the spring. Agreement is that the trail must be completed by October 2014.

**Christine Daddarid:** Her group YOU Inc. may adopt a section of the trail. She is going to discuss with her boss.

#### **President Report**

Lisa Mikkelson is opening a cross-fit running store and communicated to Pat about possibly making a contribution to the store.

Bethany Church (Compassion NE) submitted an application to be an adopt-a-trail sponsor.

Reno, Pat, Nancy and Bill Kavanaugh met with Mike Bresciani, head of the Parks Dept, to review the department's role in maintaining the trail. Bill presented some engineering recommendations regarding some problem areas on the trail. Mike is supposed to give Bill a call regarding next steps. Holidays may have delayed this but still expected. The Parks Dept received an extra \$20,000 from the Town to maintain the trail. The dept is supposed to track how much they are spending on the trail, and to report any financial constraints. The Friends should ask Mike for a schedule for implementing the suggested improvements. Nancy will be the point person going forward.

Hopkinton trail group of about 15 did a hike on 1/6 on the Hughes property to where it connects with our trail, and Pat joined them. Holliston and Sherborn seem to have some activity.

#### **Vice President Report**

Dave had nothing to report separate from items covered under other business.

#### **Treasurer Report**

Tom distributed the 2012 year-end treasurer report. The Friends ended 2012 with the approximately the same balance as they opened the year: \$15,288.05, after both taking in and expending \$9000.00. About 43% of both the income and expenditures were for granite benches.

#### **Secretary Report**

Margaret was absent due to work travel. No report.

#### **Website Committee – Teresa**

Dick will speak to Consigli construction about adopting a section of the trail.

Need to update adopt a trail sponsor info on trail. Dave gave Teresa updates.

Next Greg project: update trail sponsor info; trail bench locations.

Brett doesn't think the Milford Water Company should be an adopt-a-trail sponsor due to issues with town regarding their services and fees. Nancy is already talking to the Water Company. Dave pointed out that adopt a trail sponsors have to be voted on by the Friends membership.

Jim, Dick, and Teresa are going to approach businesses about becoming trail sponsors on the website (annual period is 4/1 to 3/31 for \$100.00 fee). They are targeting 20 plus.

Reno and Jim have done a trail history for the website "Build It and They Will Come." Pat is going to add a concluding statement about recent accomplishments by the Friends.

Brett volunteered to approach Price Chopper where he works for a donation.

Teresa proposed doing a video of the trail. She suggested engaging a group. Dave suggested that the high school may have a group who would do it for credit rather than a fee. Teresa will call the school.

The website the help wanted and the wish list need to be rewritten. Pat would like to form a committee to update the wish list.

It was suggested that Pat appear on the Milford TV show to publicize the Friends.

Pat will give Teresa a picture and a write-up taken about the Hopkinton walk on the trail to put on Facebook.

Reno suggested that a letter be composed that speaks about the trail and perhaps the Friends to be used when approaching companies for large donations.

### **Maintenance and Enhancements**

2 benches were installed on the trail by Wildcat Pond.

The blinking light at Dilla Street is malfunctioning – blinks all the time. Reno said that Mike should be notified.

There is a stuck lock on the gate by the Class 1957 bench. This should be reported as well.

The temporary orange fence near the Shadowbrook spur is down.

### **Old Business**

A motion was unanimously passed to terminate 3 outstanding disbursement motions, closing out the authorization to spend any of their remaining funds:

- 11-07 for administrative supplies.
- 12-01 for doggie bags.
- 12-13 for website development.

### **New Business**

Pat proposed that the Friends host an open forum for other town trail groups that are working towards or on building their trails, as well as other people to exchange ideas and experience. The large room in the Senior Center is available on 3/5, the night of the Friends regular meeting. All towns can give an update on where they are. Reno and Dave and Tom Reardon and Ruth volunteered to help with the planning. Motion was passed unanimously.

The following disbursement motions were made and unanimously passed to expend:

- Up to \$1500.00 for the Lobisser bench purchase and installation.
- Up to \$35.00 for the past trail clean up expenses.
- Up to \$1500.00 for Ramirez bench purchase and installation.
- Up to \$200.00 for trail clean ups during 2013.
- Up to \$100.00 for gas and maintenance for the leaf blower during 2013.
- Up to \$100.00 for administrative expenses during 2013.
- Up to \$100.00 for government filing fees during 2013.
- Up to \$1500.00 for web site development and fees during 2013.
- Up to \$1500.00 for doggie bags during 2013.
- Up to \$1000.00 for officer and directors insurance during 2013.
- Up to \$200.00 for expenses for the March 2013 open house.

The next meeting will be on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.