

# Minutes

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

Minutes for the Open Monthly Meeting - November 5, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Rosenthal at 7:05pm

### **In Attendance:**

11 Members

2 Non-members

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion:** Motion to approve meeting minutes, seconded, passed unanimously.

**Guest Speaker:** Carin Cohen from Critter Visits ([www.crittervisits.com](http://www.crittervisits.com)). She has donated Dog Waste Station & bags for Phase 3 of the trail. New Design which is now plastic rather than metal which holds up better than the metal. She has previously donated on the older parts of the trail.

**Update presented by Reno Deluzio, Milford Trail Committee:** Phase 3 update - The "missing link" is underway. There is a lot of muck that a piece of equipment got stuck in but they have since dealt with that situation and the area is now more stable. They are dealing with some areas that are having drainage issues but they are working out the details to fix them. They are working with Holliston to figure out the end of the trail near their section.

**Updates presented by Pat Rosenthal, President:** There is a grand opening for Planet Aid. Pat passed around an invitation that was sent to her by Adrienne Currin at Planet Aid. Correspondence has come in from Pack 32. They were working along the trail during the clean up. Their cub master Jason Windsor has been in touch and they are looking to get involved with Friends to continue with clean up. The BVT students were unable to attend the meeting but they are actively working on planning the mural. Suggestions have been ideas for the railroad history and also fitness oriented designs. There has also been a suggestion about a memorial for Dave Cassinelli. They are in touch with Dave's family to get approval for it and if the family is okay with that idea.

**Update presented by Tom Myatt, Treasurer:** There has been a total of \$8684.15 of income and \$5476.34 of expenses to date which results in a net change of \$3207.81 for 01/01/2013 – 10/31/2013. Tom has filed the annual report with the secretary of the commonwealth.

**Update presented by Katie Siciak, Secretary:** Have been checking the trail email and passing along correspondence to the appropriate parties. The current membership count is at 69 members.

**Update from the Social Media Committee** - Some suggestions for the website are replacing the Dave Cassinelli Memorial story on the website and also adding some additional stories like an update on the "missing link". We are open for help with writing stories or giving suggestions for stories.

### **Update presented by Nancy Wojick/Pat Rosenthal - M&E Committee -**

Fall Cleanup - We had roughly 40-45 people sign up which included adopters, Planet Aid, Consigli Construction (participated Friday Oct 25.), Walden Woods, Vineyard Church, Montgomery Lodge of Masons.

Pat emailed the adopters about the fall cleanup so we would be aware of who was out there doing the cleanup. She received confirmation from about half of the adopters. We are looking for better communication between the Friends and the Adopters. We would like to have them participate in the meetings.

A few volunteers from the Milford High School CARE group came out and helped distribute mulch around the memorial benches during the fall cleanup.

Adopt-a-Trail - There is no real delineation between the portions of the trail that are being adopted. Markers would be helpful for adopters so they are aware of what portion is theirs.

Friends purchased an additional leaf blower and are willing to train adopters on how to use them if they would like to use it on their portion of the trail.

Vandalism continues to be an issue. We are going to try to use graffiti removal off some of the granite benches but depending on how long it has been on there it may not be able to come off.

**Update from Bill Kavanaugh, member:-** He and Jim Cockroft, member, tackled a portion of the erosion issue along the trail during the fall cleanup. He has proposed ways to fix the issue to the Parks Department about the erosion issue with no kind of response from them. Bill and Jim went to a portion of the trail, during the fall cleanup, that had significant erosion to take care of it themselves. They made a 1.5" trench to prevent further erosion onto the trail. He is thinking of going out in the spring time and see how the trench has worked and see how many stones have come back. If the upkeep of the trench is all that needs to be done, that would be a good solution.

#### **Old Business -**

- Reno Deluzio- Trail Maintenance - There is a Memorandum of Understanding that has been reviewed by the Friends & ready to be reviewed with the Parks Commission & is intended to document divisions of responsibility for maintaining the trail. The trail committee has been trying to schedule a meeting to submit the proposal for trail maintenance but so far they haven't been able to schedule anything.

#### **New Business -**

- Mike Morrison - There is a significant area near Hayward Street where he has seen a lot of trash and thinks it would be a good idea to be aware of it or address it before that trail area opens.
- Reno and Mike are going to be starting up the trail count using the electronic counter located within the crossing signals which would enable regular trail usage audits.
- Reno Deluzio- He would like to propose having another Grand Opening for the new portion of the trail once the "missing link" is complete, most likely next October.
- Suggestion was made to follow up with the Trail Symposium towns for a follow up meeting to last year's meeting. Pat will reach out to the Robert in Holliston to begin planning.
- Tom Myatt - The Riccuitti bench should be ready to go within a few weeks.

Next meeting January 7, 2014 7pm.

Motion to amend at 8:25pm.