

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail – Open Monthly Meeting – March 3, 2014

There were 12 members & 4 non-members in attendance. Meeting began with introductions at 7:04pm.

The approval of the minutes was tabled because minute-secretary Katie Siciak was not present and no one had the minutes with them.

Speaker: Kerry Pepe. Kerry is a frequenter user of the trail, and a member of the Friends. She suffers from Lyme disease and wants to help protect others by putting up signs on or near the trail. She has ten signs and Pat suggested that we put them on the kiosk boards. A motion was made during new business. Reno Deluzio mentioned that we should have a kiosk policy.

Speaker: Arlen Johnson made a presentation about the Roger Williams Pageau Memorial Charitable Foundation. He is hoping to organize a Walk-a-thon along the trail for this foundation and he envisions many 501 c(3) organizations participating together.

Reno reported that there are ongoing meetings with contractors regarding specifications for phase and the last 450 feet to the Holliston connection. Two gates have been purchased. The Hayward St. crossing will need a flashing beacon. The Hopkinton parking lot entrance needs to be widened for easier access to the parking lot at this trailhead. Discussions are under way with Scott Crisafulli & town engineers on an appropriate design that will utilize town owned land here. In general, the maintenance log has been updated, but much work needs to be completed.

President Pat Rosenthal reviewed the upcoming trail symposium in Ashland on Saturday, March 8th. Speakers will include business owners that have benefited from being near the Minuteman Trail in Lexington, Bill Buckley, Milford Selectman, and the Ashland State Representative, Tom Sannicandro along with the leaders of each of the Upper Charles Trail towns providing annual updates on current status, development, & future plans

Treasurer Tom Myatt updated attendees with a financial statement.

Secretary Margaret Myatt reported that we are stable with about 68 members. She requested new “Support the Trail” stickers. It was suggested that an annual renewal policy be developed for sponsors listed on the back of membership cards, similar to the website sponsors. At least 1 business, Midtown Fitness was unaware that they were still listed & had also indicated that Purchase St Market had been sold & no longer affiliated to its prior owners.

Pat reported that the web site will be updated with this month with new sponsors & articles. Blackstone Valley Tech students had indicated a willingness to work on putting together stories for the memorial bench donations, however, this has not happened as yet. Mike Morrison has volunteered to assist with writing new web content. Nancy Wojick has submitted an article for the Critter Visit dog station donation.

Dick Flooks reported on web site sponsors and many 2014-2015 sponsorships have been received

Nancy Wojick reported on maintenance, but quipped – “we haven’t seen the trail all winter.” Maintenance projects will re-activate in the spring. There was a request made of the town’s highway dept to ensure that all trailhead parking lots are plowed after snow storms as the trail continues to be used in all seasons, including the winter months by snowshoers & cross country skiers.
No Old Business.

New Business: Nancy made a motion to place the lyme disease signs on the kiosk boards, Tom seconded. This passed unanimously.

Pat mentioned that she is forming a sub-committee for planning the phase III completion ceremony and celebration. She asked for volunteered and Guru, Nancy, and Sheldon volunteered.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 8th at 7:00 pm at the Senior Center. It will not be on the 1st because of election day.