

Minutes

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail

Minutes for the Open Monthly Meeting – May 5, 2015

President Pat Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm

In Attendance:

Members - Katie Siciak, Mike Morrison, Margaret Myatt, Pat Rosenthal, Reno DeLuzio, Mark Tolpin, Bill Kavanaugh, Denise Simoneau, Dave & Rita Wilkie, Brett Staupe Gary Bonetti, Guru Simran Kaur Khalsa-Bob
Non-members – Dana Chalberg

Approval of Minutes:

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

Updates presented by Reno Deluzio:

- \$30K in remaining trail construction funds is intended to be used to cover the erosion & drainage issue along Phase 1 section
- Document review was completed with Highway Dept on May 1st; document was shared with meeting attendees
- Fire dept has used the trail behind the water company to access fire roads for recent brush fires; discussion with highway dept has also included widening the access point/gate for easier fire equipment access.

Updates presented by Pat Rosenthal, President:

- Trail census planned for Sat, May 16th, from 8am to 6pm. Volunteers needed, several Sacred Heart CCD students will assist
 - Request was made for a wish list item to be added to enable automated trail census capabilities via the Cross Alert systems or other means.
 - **Action:** *Mike Morrison will follow up with Ken Block from Cross Alerts on current system*
- Responded Meghan Devine, Baxter Healthcare as a potential new adopter; they hope to attend the June meeting
- Responded to a request from Ray Fryer re development of a Hopkinton Friends group.
- Spring cleanup: Emails were sent to all members of the adopt a trail program members re this year's adopter cleanup to be a choice of date for our adopter organizations between the dates of April 15-May 15. About half have responded:
 - Consigli Construction had their cleanup on May 1st, photos shared
 - Planet Aid has their cleanup scheduled for Friday, May 15th.
 - Alternatives is scheduled for May 6th
 - Walden Woods & Vineyard Church sections look good
 - Brett Staupe & family was done on April 25th
 - Special thanks to Dave & Rita Wilkie who cleaned old tores & other debris along the Hopkinton section, pictures to be posted on website & facebook
 - No word from other
- Worked with Richard to complete website updates including an article on the Trail Census, re-posting the Tick/Lyme disease info & other miscellaneous updates

Update presented by Margaret Myatt on behalf of Tom Myatt, Treasurer: Total income: \$3,319.39, Total Expense: \$115.10, closing balance: \$21, 421.16, Open spending authorizations: \$16,284.90, Uncommitted funds: \$5,136.26.

Update presented by Mike Morrison, Vice President:

- Citizen's for Milford Beautification day cleanup was held on April 25th. Graffiti & broken fencing were reported to Nancy Wojick for Parks Dept coordination.
 - **Action:** *Nancy to coordinate with Parks Dept*

- As a follow up to last month's Wish List request, Mike has measured the 50 ft section of the Senior Center spur near Main St but hasn't gotten any material quotes yet. This is intended to inhibit unwanted unsightly trash from surrounding businesses.
 - **Action:** Mike to obtain quotes for materials

Update presented by Katie Siciak, Secretary/ Social Media & Website:

- Margaret Myatt provided the website domain renewal (2 yrs) & hosting (1 yr) invoice for payment (\$106 / \$49). Margaret will donate the Upper Charles Trail website domain(uppercharlestrail.org) to Holliston and/or the other Upper Charles Trail towns.
 - **Action:** Margaret will provide the links that need to be moved from this old website so that we may update our website appropriately
- Website stats were not available for April
- Several emails were received re questions on the brush/tree eliminations near the Louisa Lake section of trail. Reno indicated that this was part of the flood control/dike project & that the Highway Dept was conducting this necessary work due to state mandates. For more info, individuals can contact the town.

Membership Committee/MCD update (Margaret Myatt):

- Current membership stands at 70members.
- Sponsorship donation acknowledgements completed, \$2400 in sponsorships
- Milford Disabilities Commission update re Cell Phone software technology – Audubon society in Framingham is using this technology & MCD is planning to learn more

M&E Committee (Nancy Wojick): absent

Old Business:

- Tom met with the disability commission to present the ideas that were discussed at the last meeting about a donation from the trail to apply to making the trail more handicapped accessible. MCD will review & get back to the Friends.

New Business:

- Reno Deluzio has been trying to negotiate a connection from Walden Woods to the trail that would require private funding for an easement title for a 4 acre lot which would allow for the legal use of this property to access the trail.
 - **Motion:** Motion: Reno moved to set aside \$2,000 for legal fees for the acquisition of property rights of lot 6-0-8 to establish a connection from the Walden Woods Condominium development to the Trail, motion seconded, approved unanimously. Motion seconded, & approved unanimously.
- Question posed to the group re: organizations who would like to become sponsors after the March 31st deadline. Group unanimously voted to allow new sponsors to be added with the clear understanding that all sponsorships are renewed annually by March 31st.
- An amendment to the sponsor policy to use a standardized invoice template for businesses requiring an invoice in order to become a sponsor was made & unanimously approved.
- Mark Tolpin, member, requested an additional trash receptacle be added along the senior center spur.
 - **Action:** M&E will check with Parks Dept for this addition
- A question was raised about syringes discarded in certain sections of the trail & what, can or should be done. Individuals are encouraged to contact the Milford Police tip line & report any suspicious behavior.
 - **Action:** Pat will contact Police Dept for additional info such as info that can be placed on kiosks re what to do or who to call to report suspicious (possibly drug related) activity

Next meeting will be Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Motion to adjourn at 8:43pm.