

Minutes

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail

Minutes for the Open Monthly Meeting – April 5, 2016

President Mike Morrison called to order at 7:05 pm

In Attendance

Members: Mike Morrison, Julie R. Morales, Tom Myatt, Julianne Bonvino, Margaret Myatt, Reno DeLuzio, Gary Bonetti, Gary Sanborn, Marty Sanborn, Catherine Guido, Pat Rosenthal, Julie R. Morales, Phillip Morales, Ann Toffey, Jane Fradkin, Guru Khalsa-Bob, Nancy Wojick

Non-members: Paul Gunaratnam

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Margaret Myatt moved and Tom Myatt seconded to approve the minutes of March meeting, passed unanimously.

Updates:

- Reno DeLuzio discussed the Walden Woods connection. He submitted an article for the Town Meeting on the easement on Route 85. The Capital Improvement Committee requested information and he told them the Trail Committee has requested the land owner to gift the easement to the town. At this time the land owner has taken the request under advisement. In the event the property owner does not gift the easement, the Trail Committee will seek private funds in the amount of \$5000.

New signage on Mount Pleasant Street to commuter lot going up, some up already, met with Highway Department sign person and showed him what has to be done. Mount Pleasant Street road being reconstructed as well as sidewalk, yellow line being painted from commuter lot to trail head. Traffic signals blinking lights not working. Got police department records: total bill for all traffic bill repairs was \$44,000 – 5% was for trail.

- Pat Rosenthal of the Meet and Greet sub-committee reported that the event was attended by 60-65 people – 23% participation rate adopters/sponsors: 6 adopters, 2 adopters/sponsors, 2 sponsors. 41 certificates were handed out. Pat delivered to those who didn't attend. Didn't deliver to Zain Ridge because they haven't engaged with us. Thank you notes were sent to the food vendors and speakers. Attendees were interested in adoption program, adopters very enthusiastic. You, Inc. submitted adoption papers and scheduled a clean-up for April 27th. There are currently 3 openings for adoptions. Nancy showed samples of sponsor signs. It was noted that some sections of the trail are not kept up by adopters/sponsors. Should be reported to friends if you see this. Pat Rosenthal provided an adopter update: Wegmans – they don't have manpower to do adoption. They will donate food and drinks for events if they can. They have an online community giving registration on their website. Many Helping Hands said they can't commit because of declining health. Compassion New England weren't aware of their adoption, they aren't going to participate. Zain Ridge – they are still not responding to phone calls. Potential new adopters: Milford Jr. Women's Club, Atlas Travel, Paul Gunaratnam. Adopter form should be updated – says renews automatically every year. Propose to change wording April 1 adoption and sponsorship starts. Pat will work on this form for the next meeting.

Updates presented by Mike Morrison, President

- At the March meeting it was discussed that funds allocated for the new website were lost. We were able to recover a credit from GoDaddy to be used to extend domain registration through 2025. Since it will be used for website development and hosting, no new motion required.
- In February Mike recorded video with Tom O'Loughlin to discuss the trail, which was motivated by the Dedham chief contacting Tom to spur trail development talk in Dedham. Video is part of Trail Talk. Has gotten good reviews, was aired on Milford TV and sent to Dedham.
- Inquiry received from Baxalta regarding an Earth day clean up on April 22. Mike responded we are going to tie in with Citizens of Milford Beautification Day April 30th.
- Bee Lines: planned to do work this week due to weather, it has been postponed. Pat followed up with Sheldon, no new date yet.

- Celebrate Milford Event May 14 at Town Park. We will sponsor a table for the entire event to talk about trail, offer memberships. Good platform for upping membership. Pat suggested maybe approaching businesses at the Celebrate Milford for sponsorship. Volunteers to date: Tom and Margaret Myatt, Guru, Julianne, Mike, Gary and Marty Sanborn.

Updates presented by Julie Rosenthal Morales, Vice President

- Spoke with representative from Milford Junior Women’s Club regarding interest in becoming an adopter. They want to be involved in the section where their bench is and will reach out to the current adopter of that section.

Update presented by Tom Myatt, Treasurer

- Tom distributed copies of March Treasurer Report.

Total Income: \$1,267.46
 Total Expense: \$1,318.39
 Closing Balance: \$19,132.51
 Open Spending Authorizations: \$11,613.31
 Uncommitted Available Funds: \$7,519.20
 Open Spending Authorizations:
 Authorized: \$15,300.00
 Expended: \$ 3,686.69
 Remaining: \$11,613.31

Action: Tom moved to authorize \$100 for #16-01 for government filing fees. Seconded, passed unanimously

Action: Tom moved to authorize \$150 for #16-02 for Paypal fees. Seconded, passed unanimously.

Action: Tom moved to authorize \$150 for #16-03 for Administrative supplies. Seconded, passed unanimously.

Action: Tom moved to authorize \$1100 for #16.04 for director and office insurance. Seconded, passed unanimously.

Action: Tom moved to authorize \$600 for #16.05 for doggie bags. Seconded, passed unanimously.

Unspent remaining funds:
 #15-04 Trail Decals: keep as is
 #15-10 Signs on Kiosks: keep as is
 #15-11 Educational programs: kill that motion until something specific comes along.
 #15-08 Events: keep as is

Update presented by Julianne Bonvino, Secretary

- 5 new members in March, 1 from the Meet & Greet. Total members 69.

New Business

- New Adopter Application: Paul Gunaratnam will have to wait until next month when we have paperwork at the meeting.
- Nancy is looking into finding storage space for leaf blowers, paint cans, fuel, signage. Tom suggested talking to Mike at Highway Department. Nancy will discuss options with Mike.
- Beautification day: need to email Nancy with hotspots for cleanup
- Catherine suggested a contest to promote the trail: video contest, YouTube, how do you use the trail, could be episode on Trail Talk. Julie suggested having people send in pictures and run blurb in Town Crier. Put best 5 pictures on the new website.
- Adopters and Sponsors membership - Request for volunteers to handle. Pat will keep the adopters list, and Catherine Guido will handle sponsor list. The process for Sponsors and Adopter applications will be that when

they come in, notify Tom of the dollar amount, notify Julianne so she can send the thank you letter. Catherine suggested people should be held accountable if their section is not kept up. Pat noted we previously had a checklist that was scaring people away and a report card. Friends were supposed to do a report card but everyone too busy. In the past have thrown out 2 week period to do clean ups, some participate, others don't respond.

- Suggest update to Sponsor form which would ask them for jpeg of business card. Simplify forms so that membership is for one year. Action: Reno moved that we update the sponsor form. Nancy seconded. Passed unanimously. Julie will get new form onto website
- Ann suggested having a walking tour of trail for this event, is there enough history to do this? Good idea for next year or after, 10th anniversary celebration? Could tie in with audio tour – disability commission.

Old Business

- Nancy reported that there are new sign regulations, and our current folding signs exceed size limitations. We may need to buy new signs. Nancy will find out more detail on our options.
- Mike asked if there were any new developments with the website. Mike will send Julie the login info to access it. She will work with Charity Advantage to set up, and Pat and Catherine offered to assist.

Next Meeting will be Tuesday, May 3 at the Senior Center.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:46 pm.