

SANFORD TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, June 17, 2019 Third Floor Conference Room, City
Hall Annex, 6 PM**

Meeting began at 6:05pm

Attendance: Jack McAdams, Lawrence Furbish, Rick Tockman, Al Pollard, Alan Grady, Dollie Hutchins, Kevin McKeon, Hazen Carpenter, Julie Isbill, Don Roux, Lee Burnett, Melissa Beecher

Approval of May 20, 2019 Minutes

- Approved with amendment that Kevin McKeon was in attendance
- Missing minutes from April: important that Lee Burnett is Chairman and Hazen Carpenter is Vice Chairman (Vice Chairman was omitted Hazen believes)

Accounting of volunteer hours (hours tracking sheet sent around)

Master Trail Plan with Julie

- **Review presentations to Three Rivers Land Trust, SM Vet Cemetery and first responders**
 - First responder presentation
 - Alan will discuss with Fire Marshal to see what cost would be to install Knox padlocks and how many would be needed
 - Recommended numbered markers at regular intervals
 - Great when one loop or one trail, but can be tricky when so interconnected
 - Maybe start with Rail Trail—Hazen and sign committee will investigate
 - Veteran's Cemetery
 - Said they thought would be difficult to put a trail in because owned by the State
 - Recommended sign that says "Access to Veteran's Cemetery", but don't think an official trail through cemetery is possible

- Worth connecting with the State to see if this is possible since cemetery is open all times (except during snowstorms)? Might still be a conflict with Cemetery Board even if State approved
- **Review Upcoming presentations**
 - Hazen will be connecting with a couple of families, Lee with School Board
 - Beth sent plan to Steve Buck for updating the Comprehensive Plan because need funding (Jack gave update as Planning Board representative)
 - Beth recommends a Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee to inform content and ensure all parties who are impacted get contacted to gather info/get feedback
 - Worth us having a representative on this Advisory Board?
 - Depends on the Council's decision for who should be involved
 - Jack will get update from Beth after Steve Buck's recommendation based on the City Council's recommendation
 - Julie has done a final read through for edits, gave to Lee who will review as well
 - Graphic Designer will work on it once have final edit so looks nice for paper copy and electronic
 - How many copies do we want?
 - Committee decided on 50 printed copies
 - Copies for members of Trails Committee, all partners that were presented to, members of City Council, local libraries/City Hall
 - Electronic for the rest of distribution
 - Final piece that needs work is the map itself—so much detail that needs to be larger than 8.5x11 standard sheet
 - Might do fold up versions in the back as an appendix
 - Once all presentations are complete, then Trails Committee will present to City Council especially because we would like the Trails Master plan to be included in the City's comprehensive plan
 - Would need to get on the agenda—July?
 - Finished document likely in September/October

Committee Reports

- **Communications/outreach**

- Melissa shared that social media push during Bike Fest was great—over 5k impressions in the 2 weeks leading up to the event
 - She plans to do something similar for Farm Walk (Facebook event, posts leading up as a countdown, tagging participating farms to increase reach)
 - Created a Sanford Trails Instagram account—small following (55) but hopes to grow it over time

- **Construction/maintenance**

- Lee shared that we don't know if Army National Guard will be here or not for the project on Rail Bed that we want them to implement so advised that we hold off on maintenance until we know if they will be able to assist
 - Lee said we will get recon this summer, team summer 2020
 - Might get an entire battalion (upward of 130 people?)
 - Is the gravel from Mapes available? Lee thinks if we have a proposal we can use it—table for now

- **Volunteers to help spread material along Rail Trail**

- Alan shared that the AV Club said they have access to “regrind” to help reduce dust in parking lot at ballpark along Witham St.
 - Granular up to 2” size-- $\frac{3}{4}$ ” preferred (10-14 cubic yards available)
 - Free material, they will dump it where we want it so we need to determine where it should go
 - Trails Committee will review material first so we can determine where to put it
 - Once we know that, then we can set a date to dump it and grate it
- Encouraged AV Club to get permission from Sherwin Williams to put down in that area too if works near ballpark

- **Volunteers**

- Rick shared that there weren't enough volunteers for the United Way Day of Caring so the project that we submitted didn't get selected
 - If we have a project next year, we can submit again
 - Lee recommended we make it an attractive project to get volunteers by making sure it is meaningful, interesting, fun
 - Would need to submit before April 1, 2020
- Also shared that the September walk needs more logistics and volunteers

than first realized because of the length of the trail walk

- Lee recommended Rick came up with a plan for what would be needed and bring to next meeting so we can see how many people would be needed (roles)
- Curtis Lake Church has volunteers that will help with part of Mousam Way South trail to clear on Saturday, June 22 @ 8:30am—meet at Emery Street parking lot
- Ask Aroma Joe's if they'd like to do a volunteer day again like summer 2018
 - Alan will connect with contact from last year
- Teen program through Parks & Rec—will weed center of rotary and some trail clean up on Monday, July 29th (got through summer camp—kids volunteer to get discount for trip fees)
- **Signage**
 - **Volunteers to put up 7 hierarchy signs along rail trail**
 - Hazen will convene sign committee next week--will connect via email with members
 - Asked AV Club when would be best to put up the signs
 - Thursday, 6/27 @ 5pm--meet on Pleasant Street parking lot
 - Hazen has hardware and posts
 - They can get volunteers at their club meeting on Wed.
- **Landowner relations**
 - **Possible easements with Sherwin Williams and Bruno property**
 - Hazen went to property subcommittee meeting--concerns about crosswalk, not the correct angle, but first need easement before curb cut or crosswalk
 - Bruno property not interested in an easement because feel will be a deterrent when want to sell property
 - Lee shared that left 2 voicemails with landowner for Sherwin Williams but no reply
 - Alan also emailed landowner and has not gotten a reply—Lee will reach out via email too

Old Business:

● Debrief Sanford Bike Fest

- Lee: Successful kickoff—120 participants (not counting BMX bikers). Lots of kids and families. Great start/foundation to build for future years.
- Dollie: table she stationed got some traffic from participants
- Melissa: lots of good photo ops at beginning, helped to increase social media followers/likes/impressions
- Julie: most important in her mind was that the city streets were closed with police presence—this was great because it helped increase awareness within City (thanks for raising the funds for the detail Lee!)
- Hazen: try to get more community involvement next time from businesses—good start this year though
 - Still need to work on getting bike lanes in the city
- Don: some spots had traffic issues with speed when just had barricades; maybe have some sort of vest or bright shirt so know who volunteers are
- Kevin: impressed that parts of the roads were re-paved which helped make trail smooth—thank you to Matt in Public Works
- Rick: Bretton and School St—everyone was thankful and delighted; multigenerational event which was nice
- Alan: Kidzone at YMCA plus waivers; impressed with attendance of event; ok to have one big send off at starting time and not run event for 4 hours (we were done around 12/12:30pm)
- General ideas for next year: competition for best decorated bike, largest group, best outfits; vests/colorful shirts for volunteers, signage along route with “fun facts” about the Trail system

● Update Springvale Farm Walk, July 28, 2019

- Map and brochure in great shape—will get printed by Edison Press
- Lots of donors—\$500 so far plus Lowe’s and Deering for materials
 - Will cover port-a-potties, brochures, arrows for signage
 - Lee proposed we use \$100 of the donations for arrow signage
 - Motion made by Lee, seconded by Al, approved by majority vote
- Volunteers
 - Shuttle drivers
 - Don, Lee, Dollie, Al will drive the shuttles
 - Parking
 - Lee will get in touch with Gigi, Kevin

- **Signs for Witham Street and RR Bed (noise ordinance, speed limits, hierarchy)**
 - Ordinances for noise could be enforced because nothing on the books about hours for trail use (dawn to dusk is what is stated now)
 - Trails noise ordinance would be 11pm-5am (per city ordinance on the books)—signs will get updated
 - Don mentioned that one issue could be grooming later at night in winter with snowmobiles but likely not a major issue—Alan said if they give a heads up to him/police that could help mitigate
 - Lee mentioned that police chief would like to have a speed limit posted otherwise can't enforce challenges with speed; doesn't want anything less than 15 since that's the lower posted speed limit sign in the state (school zones)
 - need an official sign because currently a spray-painted one posted by landowners
 - AV Club requested signs electronically during the meeting and State already sent email confirmation that the signs will be delivered to post on the trail!
 - **Other AV Club updates**
 - Applied for and got a Maine State grant to help with maintenance of trail—\$21k total! (Geomat material)
 - Matting helps to keep smooth because sets within dirt and can mow over as needed
- **Access control/gates Shaw's Ridge, Boothby Avenue and Normand Avenue**
 - Unknown when this will happen due to being short-staffed
 - Conservation Service had staff turnover
 - can use money to do storm water retention at Boothby Ave
 - once new staff member gets up to speed Lee will get in touch with her to use the money to do storm water retention/access control
 - Hazen said if he can get volunteer help, can do Shaw's Ridge gate
 - half day project—need to schedule it; perhaps after July 1

New Business:

- **Grant application Recreational Trails Program**
 - Lee has an idea to establish parking areas to access our trail system from major highways/routes which would also be contingent upon us acquiring some land to make through trails (easements)
 - would include this in the grant application

- need both land for parking and access for trails
- Have \$15k in new fiscal year—but grant would help pay for parking and a trail head (50/50 match from grant with some of our budget)
 - Buy ¼ acre from Gail Browning to get parking area and a trail head on Rte. 4 near new High School?
 - Parking area in dirt lot across from North Country John Deere store on Shaw's Ridge Road?
- Next step—go to Property Committee to share what our idea/plan of action is to apply for the grant

Other:

- Hazen and Lee announced that Three Rivers Land Trust is looking to get property along Rail Bed about 500 acres to acquire (near McKeon Reserve) off of 11A (Oak Street)
- Alan announced Fitness Zone up and running; Grand opening July 22
 - Trail walk once a month led by Trails Committee member
 - 1 mile walk to introduce to our trails
 - Rick and Lawrence will lead the first one on Mousam Way South trail—will coordinate
 - Al volunteered as well to lead one
 - Have a trail clean-up day occasionally too?

Next Meeting: 7/15/19

Adjournment - Motion by AI, seconded by Hazen

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Distribution:

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