

Sanford Trail Committee Meeting
Monday, February 28, 2022
Zoom Meeting

Meeting began at 7:00

Members Present: Hazen Carpenter, Thom Gagné, Lawrence Furbish, Sam Parady, Brady Lloyd, Dollie Hutchins, Dave Parent, Kevin McKeon, Al Pollard, Katie Menende, Jeff Wells

Guests: Lee Burnette

1. Introduction of new and continuing members:
2. Approval of the January 24 meeting Minutes: Motion by David and seconded by Al to accept the minutes with the exception of a minor detail. Unanimously approved.
3. Financial Report: There was no change since the last meeting. Trail CIP has \$20,103.84. We were awarded a \$42K RPT grant from the State We will need to carve out \$5,480 for our share, \$2160 from the MW Land Trust and \$1,000 in kind from the SRTC. Special Revenue Account has \$4,906.53.
4. Powers Bridge project on Rt. 4 over the Mousam River: Lee reported that Maine DOT will be rebuilding the Rt. 4 bridge in 2023-24. The state has allocated 3.5 million dollars to do it. The Trail Master Plan calls for an underpass under the bridge to connect MWS to the Eastern Trail. The owner of the land between the Land Trust property and Rt. 4 may be interested in the Spring to negotiate a sale/lease for the recreational easement over the land we need to cross. This would require the City Council to do some funding for the link needed to connect the MWS to the birding ponds. Lee went on to say that the State is aware of our desire for the underpass. ME DOT buys into the "Complete Streets Concept" and will entertain our request. This could also connect the MWS bicycle path to Gavel Rd. And then the birding ponds. Also the MWS could continue along the river to a bridge crossing to the birding ponds.
Future considerations are a bridge over the river near the Star Landing Land Trust, the Sewer Dept. agreeing to move the fence surrounding the pond near the river about 10" in from its current placement which the Committee might have to offer to pay to have the fence moved.

Lee will send Lawrence the DOT contact info. Lee stated that since this is a high priority item for us we should approach the Property Subcommittee to inform them.

Lee also mentioned that we should improve the trail by Public Works and Haven Cove.

5. Committee Reports:

- A. Communication/Outreach - Katie reported that Instagram had 370 followers and that we had 1,803 hits on Fb. The Klondike Derby was successful and posts of it were shared. Three Committee Members were featured. Katie is asking for other members to send her a short bio.
- B. Construction/Maintenance: Hazen, Jeff and Sam are the members of this subcommittee.
 - 1.) Hazen suggested that we should start the planning for the Y trail and Dog Park trail repairs. We need to calculate how much gravel we will need to buy from the city.
 - 2.) We should put the School St. project out to bid soon.
 - 3.) The scout installed bench by Deering pond was tipped over. Hazen volunteered to reset it with his tractor. Will need help with this.
 - 4.) The sign for Stanley Rd. Needs to be moved and installed when the ground thaws.
 - 5.) Hazen would like to have the bridge down by the Leap repaired soon.
 - 6.) Historic signs. 12 are faded and 5 are missing. Cost to address this is 12 faded signs x \$15 each plus 5 missing signs \$50 for a total of \$420. Motion by Al and seconded by Thom to approve \$420 to replace the needed Historic Signs for Sanford and Springvale. Unanimously approved.
- C. Volunteer Hours: there were 27 hours put in by committee members during January.
- D. City Relations: This assignment is for the Trail Committee to keep on top off what is going in the city that might affect the Trails Committee. This individual would need to attend the City Operations & Property Subcommittee meetings. Sam volunteered to do this.
- E. Trail Adoption/Volunteer Hours: Lawrence and Al volunteered for this. subcommittee. They will look into contacting the H.S. Key Club, H.S. Environmental Club, Eagle Scout Candidates (Blain Porter possible contact person), Mousam Way Land Trust, Three Rivers Land

Trust, the YMCA, United Way and the Curtis Lake Church.

6. Old Business:

- A. Eagle Scout Project - Will Kiley: Rail Trail. Will will not be available to report to the committee about his project but Kevin summarized his accomplishments.
- B. Spring Projects: See item 5.B above
- C. Status of the Rail Trail Task Force Report: Brady reported that he is in charge of developing a policy for the trail and ATVs. The Task Force was charged to look at the issues and suggest possible solutions.
- D. 2022-23 Budget Request: We asked for \$65K and will want to attend the public hearing. Brady will let us know when.
- E. Recreational Easement along sewer line between H.S. and Rt. 4. Kevin volunteered to speak to the land owner about some sort of accommodations. Also see item #4 above.

7. New Business:

- A. Snow Dog: Jeff reported that a snow dog can be used to pack snow down just about anywhere and that it would open up the trails for many users. The thought was that the committee could purchase one for \$4K and committee members could volunteer to use it to open up the trails for winter use. It could be used on all the single track trails or where snowmobiles can't /don't go. Hazen felt that a small machine with a spreader could be used all summer long for trail maintenance and would be a better investment. Lawrence to contact Julie from the National Park Service to see if they might have used one. Brady suggested that perhaps it could be a CIP item.
- B. Revisit the Sanford Trails Master Plan: Lawrence suggested we look at connectors. The committee then discussed the following:
 - 1). MWN to Veterans' Cemetery
 - 2). Rail Trail that crosses Rt. 224 and continues to Alfred.
 - 3). Bicycle Trail around the Middle School
 - 4). Downtown Connector on WOE Drive, Riverside Ave. and River St.
 - 5). H.S. to Rt. 4. See #4 above
 - 6). Birding Pond perimeter trail. Lawrence to contact Andre to arrange another visit for us to get a better sense of what is involved.
 - 7). The Springvale Farm Trail. We can reach the power lines but to

continue it into a loop trail will take a lot more planning.

8. Next Meeting is March 21, 2022 via Zoom at 7:00

9. Closing Remarks: Community Resilience Grant: One goal is for every community to have 30% off its land in open space. On the Sanford Website, go to Sanford Conservation Plan page. There are maps that show all the areas that are not developed. This is a resource we could tap in our trails planning.

10. Adjournment: Motion by Hazen and seconded by AI to adjourn. Unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 9:00

Respectfully submitted by This Gagné, Secretary