

Sanford Trails Committee Meeting
Monday March 21, 2022
via Zoom

Meeting began at 7:03

Members Present: Lawrence Furbish, Thom Gagné, Sam Parady, Brady Lloyd, Jeff Wells, Kevin Mckeeon, Al Pollard, Dollie Hutchins, Hazen Carpenter

Guests: Lee Burnette

1. Approval of the February 28 , 2022 minutes: Motion by Al and seconded by Sam to approve the minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.
2. Financial Report: Brady reported that nothing had changes since the last meeting. CIP is \$14,263.84: Special Acct. is \$4,926.57 (which includes the sale of one t-shirt) less the amount set aside for the Farm Walk. The report was unanimously accepted as presented.
3. Sanford City Communications Coordinator: Jordan Wilson
She was unable to participated in this meeting.
4. Presentation by Lee Burnette : Lee informed the group that the Three Rivers Land Trust bought 500 acres of land off of the Rail Trail and would like to connect it to the Community Forest and then on to the Rhododendron Reserve. They want to create a new entrance to the reserve not far from the community Forest land. It is expected that there would be adequate parking on the Community forest property with a trail from the parking lot to the new trail head. This trail head will enter along the north edge of the Blain and Kathy Porter property. They have agreed to a permanent recreational easement. The Trust is also expecting permission from one Phylis Basinger, another abutting land owner. The Trust will have a surveyor make a plan that can be filed with the York county registry. There is a need to build a 500'+ boardwalk over the wetland area. If all groups contribute, the cost would be reasonable for all participants. The proposed new trail will provide a more preferable view of the rhododendron plants. Kevin reported the the Mousam Way Land Trust is supportive of the plan.
Lawrence asked Lee what he is looking for from the Trail Committee?

Lee stated that he is requesting that the Trail Committee commit about \$4,000 to this project. Lawrence stated that the Committee's budget is pretty much committed at this point, however we have not established our priorities yet.

Dollie made a motion that was seconded by Sam that the Trail Committee supports the concept of a new trail from the Community Forest to the Rhododendron Reserve. The motion was unanimously approved.

On another matter, Lawrence asked Lee about the RPT Grant at the High School and could he check on its status? Brady reported that the archeological study/survey has been approved. It will happen in the near future.

5. Committee Reports:

A. Communications/Outreach: Lawrence reported for Katie. We are trending up. She encouraged people to buy the T-shirts. She is also asking that each member send in a short bio and picture. We discussed the need to react to comments on Social Media as quickly as possible so as not to lose followers.

B. Construction/Maintenance - Hazen and Jeff.

a) School Street: We don't need to do a formal bid because the funds are not all out of our Trail CIP.

b) The group discussed the report Hazen had submitted to the committee. Brady reported that he will have a crew to repair the Dog Park trail. We will need some Trail Committee members to help. The date has to be determined.

C. Volunteer Hours: Lawrence reported that there were 62 volunteer hours put in by committee members for the month of February.

D. City Relations: Sam reported that on March 17, Lawrence appeared before the Budget Committee to explain why the Trail Committee asked for the additional funds.

Sam also reported that the City Council heard about the Goodall Brook clean up project to increase the oxygen content of the water. Also, on March 13, the ATV Club asked for permission to use High St. as a connector.

On March 1, the Council approved the H.S. loop project.

E. Trail Adoption & Volunteer: Lawrence reported Great Bay Services adopted the MWS a couple of years ago but, the female counselors were not comfortable bringing their clients there.

6. Old Business:

A. Spring Projects:

- 1) School St.: See item #5 B a) above
- 2) Dog Park.: See item #5 B b) above
- 3) Wood Bridge near the Leap: Hazen to have a work party fix it. Date to be determined.
- 4) Middle School Connector: Matt Hill wanted a meeting with the steak holders to review the final plan.

B. Status on Development of Rail Trail Policy: Brady is working on it.

C. 2022-2023 Budget Request: See item #5 D on above.

D. Powers Bridge update: Matt Hill is aware of our desire to have a pedestrian/bike tunnel under the proposed new DOT built bridge on Rt. 4. He has shared that with DOT.

7. New Business:

A. 2022-2023 Budget Priorities:

- Al supported work on the Stanley Rd. project.
- Dollie wanted to wait on repairs to the Rail Trail until the ATV situation is finalized. She also supported the Rhododendron Boardwalk and trail.
- Jeff agreed with Dollie on the Rail Trail but suggested that the committee gets together to walk the projects and see what exactly the situations are at each site.
- Sam supported the Leap project and the Rhododendron project. The group agreed with Jeff about the need to visit the different sites. They agreed to visit the MWN and walk it from Stanley Rd. to Haven Cove. Lawrence to organize a date to do this and then email everyone.

B. Shaws Ridge Connector and Farm Walk: No discussion on these at this time

8. Next Meeting Date: April 25, 2022

9. Closing Remarks:

A. The group discussed how to continue our meetings in the future, ie. in person, Zoom or a hybrid of both. No decision was made.

B. Al suggested that we could do something on Earth Day, the 22nd of April. He suggested trash pick. We could put it on Fb and social Media to publicize it. Lawrence to contact Katie and Jordon Wilson

for assistance on getting this out to the public.

10. Adjournment: Motion by Al and seconded by Thom to adjourn.
Unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 8:45

Respectfully submitted by Thom Gagné, Secretary