

Sanford Trails Committee
Monday June 26, 2023

Members Present: Dollie Hutchins, Hazen Carpenter, Brady Lloyd, Lawrence Furbish, Kevin McKeon, Sam Parady

Guest: Lee Burnett

Meeting began at 7:05

Dollie noted Geocache activity from visitors from NH, MA and Cumberland County, ME. Lawrence said it would be great to get more members on the committee and welcomed any suggestions.

1) Approval of the Minutes from the May 15, 2023 meeting. Motion by Hazen and seconded by Dollie to accept the minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.

2) Financial report - Brady: CIP balance is \$13,522.18. \$456 paid to Mousam Way Land Trust for work along the McKeon Reserve/Rail Trail stream crossing and \$120 paid to Burpee Signs for "no motorized access except snowmobiles" signs along the Rail Trail. Special reserve account is \$5301.29. It is unlikely any money is owed to Matt Landry and Brady will remove that as an obligation. Hazen wanted to mention and thank Kiwanis for contributing \$5,000 to the School St project and the Rene Letourneau fund for donations to Mousam Way South.

3) Committee Reports:

- A. Construction/Maintenance - Hazen: (i) School St culvert situation in limbo, no ideas yet for a barrier between parking lot and culvert. No barrier can be installed without the approval of Public Works. Kevin suggested reaching out to City Engineer Matt Provencher for additional suggestions. Lee voiced disappointment in the design of the School St parking lot and the way it connects with the trail. (ii) There is a stream of water along the Oak Street portion of the Rail Trail which may be getting larger due to runoff from a neighboring property in addition to being a route for rainwater. (iii) Marginal Way road striping to take place soon, Hazen will meet Kaz's Fine Lines, tentatively scheduled for July 5th at 9am if there is no rain.
- B. City Relations - Sam: City Council voted 5-1 on 6 June to establish the Rail Trail as a linear park. Hazen spoke to the Council in favor of the idea, Mayor Brink echoed strong support and Councilor Hitchcock asked why the vote was taking place now instead of the previously established November timeline. Mayor Brink explained the state ATV commissioner recently said no grant funding would be given for any ATV work along that trail and further private property closures past the Depot towards Alfred made its connection incomplete. Councilor Tranchemontagne said this was not an anti-ATV vote and voiced strong support for the new ATV trail from Lebanon to Waterboro. Lee Burnett spoke about expanding the City's vision and investment into the trails as the River St promenade is developed.

C. Volunteer hours: 51 hours for May

4) Old Business:

- A. High School Loop: Only 1 bid for the project has come through. From Curtis Earthworks in North Berwick, they offered to do the work but the total would be \$112,000 plus another \$35,000 estimated for the fabric. This far exceeds the \$41,000 budget. The project has been posted on the city website. Lee suggested Randy Baldwin from Skid Steer in Naples and Dollie agreed. Brady will reach out and may suggest future firms to take a site walk which would show there is already an established path there. The true nature of the project is more maintenance than trail creation. The Waterboro Republican newspaper can also advertise projects out to bid.
- B. Breton Ave: Brady and Lawrence coordinating a time to meet up with the landowner to discuss the brush cutting and fence installation.
- C. Trails webpage: Old map still on the city website. Brady, Lawrence and Jordon to work on the new map improving searchability. Send pictures of the trail to make the site more inviting.

5) New Business:

- A. Rail Trail: Hazen, Brady and Lawrence to get more signs. Brady said 55 signs are needed along the entire trail to communicate the non-motorized policy. Yield signs that include ATVs to be removed. Brady attempted to get in touch with Brian Bronson for signs but has not heard back. Hazen talked about the partnership between Parks and Rec and the Trails Committee and Lawrence wondered if a new Rail Trail policy document/guideline would need to be developed. Alternative gates for handicap and horse access were discussed. Lee said the Marginal Way style gates would work but must be removable for snowmobile access. Hazen suggested a post-mounted gate with a pin and lock system. Sam mentioned the deteriorating fences near Witham St while others reported part of the ATV route behind Sherwin Williams has been blocked off by a private landowner. The committee discussed which part of the Rail Trail to improve and Dollie suggested Oak St to Vigue. General consensus in agreement. Lawrence will reach out to SDS for an estimate for 4 inches of material from Oak to Vigue. Other topics included flags and markings for patrolling and maintenance vehicles and engaging the community to help clean and improve the trail.
- B. Spartan Dr erosion repair: Parks and Rec can transport material from Public Works. Wheel barrels and volunteers needed. Work party set for 08 July at 8am. Lee requested $\frac{3}{8}$ inch gravel instead of $\frac{3}{4}$. 3 yards of material is needed. Hazen suggested a stone ditch for water dispersion. Kevin recommends riverstone.
- C. Maintenance list: Hazen listed some of the many maintenance projects along the trail including Stanley Rd gravel disturbance from CMP work nearby, Kiwanis Mousam Way gravel and trailhead, Haven Cove, Emery St brush/trees and more. Complete list to be compiled and distributed.
- D. Nasson College to RT: Two new paths walked by committee members and developers. One longer public path connects Summer St with the Rail Trail while the residents will have a second private path in more steep terrain. Kevin documented a GPS footpath of

the routes. Lee asked if the public route would be handicap accessible in addition to the details of parking and trailhead towards Springvale, if any.

- E. 4th of July Block Party: Let Brady know by June 28th whether or not there are any volunteers for the event. A table with trail maps and tee shirts was set up last year, but Sam and Lawrence cannot attend like before. Rain date July 2nd. The event is 4-8 with set up at 3:30pm.

6) Closing remarks - Lee: Due to all the deferred maintenance projects, it would be ideal for the city to create a part-time maintenance position. The RT and High School projects require City Involvement due to the scope and number needed improvements. The Trails Committee should work with other groups including Sanford Housing Authority, Mousam Way Land Trust, 3 Rivers Land Trust, 7e and YMCA to advocate for increased investment. Mobilize organizations and businesses. Present a new Trails Master Plan to communicate a vision for the trails.

7) Adjournment: Motion by Sam and seconded by Lawrence to adjourn. Unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 8:48

Respectfully submitted by Sam Parady, Secretary