

Sanford Trails Committee  
Monday August 19, 2024

Members Present: Lawrence Furbish, Brady Lloyd, Dereck Bourque, Dollie Hutchins, Shalimar DeBusk, Thom Gagne, Melanie Taylor Coombs, Hazen Carpenter, Katie Mandende-Hall, Sam Parady

Dave Parent and Al Pollard had excused absences.

Meeting began at 7:03

Committee members discussed a fallen tree between the Middle School and the YMCA/Spartan Drive. Dereck suggested anti-graffiti coatings from Sherwin Williams for future projects. Dollie has checked/refreshed geocaches along the Rail Trail and added three new ones.

1) Approval of the minutes from the July 15, 2024 meeting. Motion by Dollie and seconded by Thom to approve the minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.

2) Financial Report - Brady: CIP balance is \$19,367.35. \$375 was paid for the William Oscar Emery sign (Lee Burnett's kiosk project) and \$1,700 was spent on some of Bull Pine's storm cleanup along the Rail Trail. \$13,370 is encumbered between Bull Pine (\$3400) and the first round of S.T.S. gravel and grade on the Rail Trail from Hanson Ridge to Lebanon (\$9,970). Special reserve account totals \$6,386.29 plus \$15,000 encumbered for work on the Rail Trail. The City of Sanford will be applying for a FEMA grant package which could possibly cover some of the \$5,100 spent on storm damage.

3) Committee Reports:

A. Communication/Outreach: Melanie attended the Farm Walk at McDougal's Orchard and spoke with a member of the Three Rivers Land Trust about the trails.

B. Construction/Maintenance - Hazen:

(i) 3 of the Rail Trail gates have been damaged. The bolts have been cut. A trail camera was discussed to monitor the gates. Dereck suggested the local game warden as a resource for protecting the most vulnerable trail entrances from purposeful damage. A high resolution camera could be useful: trail devices are employed at the nearby Laudholm/Rachel Carson Preserve. Hazen settled on hardened steel bolts for the gates and Lawrence was open to reaching out to the local game warden. Gates need to be improved visually and some sort of tape or paint to make them more visible should be applied.

(ii) Bull Pine concluded their work to clear downed limbs along the Rail Trail. Their efforts should result in 5-6 years of clear trails along the sides of the RT.

(iii) The second round of Rail Trail gravel and grade from Hanson Ridge towards Carpenter's Crossing has been completed by Stuart Torno and Sons. 3900 feet have

been improved this year. Motion by Thom and seconded by Sam and Dereck to extend STS' work a third time with \$9,900 to gravel and grade the last part of the Rail Trail towards the bridge. Unanimously approved.

(iv) The sign for Mousam Way Park in Springvale is falling apart. Motion by Sam and seconded by Thom to spend up to \$500 to refurbish the sign. Unanimously approved.

(v) Rail Trail Greenway- develop a budget for the park. Hazen mentioned a lot of the other trails need maintenance and a separate budget for RT might be helpful. Hazen suggested making it clear the trail is city property with new signs to mark the official park/greenway. Brady pointed out formal ordinances would be needed in order for the police to enforce park rules. Members discussed how bigger signs at RT entrances clearly saying no ATVs should be considered. Hazen, Dereck and Thom expressed interest in signs for the new park in addition to replacing some at Gowen Park.

C. Volunteer Hours: 53 hours since last meeting

#### 4) Old Business:

- A. Carpenter's Crossing: A work party will need to be organized for the improvement of the bridge. Katie suggested delegating other various small to medium sized projects to individuals. Everyone's schedule is so different it can be difficult to organize work parties for groups.
- B. Crosswalks: A \$3,000 grant has been obtained to improve the Rail Trail crosswalks with non-white crossing stripes and warning signs. Lawrence will coordinate with Matt Hill.
- C. Powers Bridge: Lee reported the diagonal path on the eastern side of the Mousam up to Gavel Road is likely too steep for an official trail.
- D. Trail maps: Brady said \$1,500 for 2,000 or \$1,650 for 3,000 new maps. Motion by Dollie and seconded by Hazen to purchase 3,000 trails maps. Unanimously approved.

#### 5) New Business:

- A. There will be a Saturday morning trail walk on September 28th with Officer Colleen Adams to discuss trail safety. Katie, Melanie and Sam might attend.
- B. Hazen will coordinate with Dereck to repaint the 8 gates along the Rail Trail.
- C. Lawrence mentioned Lee Burnett had no luck in retrieving the historic granite markers which once were on the Rail Trail. Hazen encouraged members to think of future projects for next year. Restoring Pioneer Ave to School street and other maintenance projects were highlighted.
- D. The Trails Master Plan, kayak trail (committee not interested in reviving) and projects for next year were briefly explored topics.

6) Adjournment: Motion by Thom and seconded by Dereck to adjourn. Unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 8:13

Respectfully submitted by Sam Parady, Secretary

