

Sanford Trails Committee  
Monday August 21, 2023

Members Present: Lawrence Furbish, Dollie Hutchins, Brady Lloyd, Thom Gagne, Sam Parady

Guests: Monica McKenna, Lee Burnett, Diane Connolly

Dave Parent, Al Pollard and Hazen Carpenter had excused absences.

Meeting began at 7:03

1) Approval of the minutes from the July 17, 2023 meeting. Motion by Dollie and seconded by Sam to accept the minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.

2) Financial Report - Brady: CIP balance is \$37,619.17. \$1,995 was paid to Kaz's Fine Lines on 28 July for road striping along Marginal Way. \$68 was paid to Sanford Public Works on 7 August for gravel along Spartan Dr. \$14,742.18 carried over from the last fiscal year plus \$25,000 for 2023/2024. Special reserve account is \$7,651.29 after an online donation of \$500. \$1,850 is set aside for Lee's William Oscar Emery trailhead project. The High School Loop project has been contracted out to Stuart Torno & Sons who accepted the bid. Brady will reach out to Mousam Way Land Trust to coordinate the funding. Regarding unspent CIP project obligations, \$5,850 is set aside for the High School Loop, \$5,567 for the Rhododendron trail, \$2,800 for the Beaver Deceiver (though it is looking unlikely the invoice will be charged), and \$2,500 for the Snowmobile Farm Trail.

3) Committee Reports:

- A. Construction/Maintenance - Lawrence: (i) Oak St. Rail Trail runoff situation- there was a leaking water main in addition to water coming from an abutting property. The water main issue has been fixed but the abutting renter is in dispute with the owner regarding tenancy and the use of the property. Dollie mentioned the area by Oak St looked dry upon last inspection and Thom highlighted a recent water line issue along William Oscar Emery Dr. Lee is very concerned about the runoff from Oak St itself and spoke strongly in favor of a Public Works solution. (ii) New granite to be installed at the William Oscar Emery trailhead.
- B. City Relations - Sam: The Municipal Operations and Property Subcommittee reviewed bids for the High School Loop project on 8 August. Hazen requested the Council expedite the approval given the limited timeline for the work to be done.
- C. Volunteer hours: 38 hours for July

4) Old Business:

- A. Maintenance: Lawrence noted the difficulty of organizing volunteer groups for medium and large projects due to the small size of the committee and diverse schedules. Try to hire smaller contractors to handle certain projects. Workers comp insurance and liability paperwork must be considered as it is required to work on city property. Public Works

and Parks and Rec employees seeking overtime could be another source of labor. Brady said the landscaping company contracted for work along the Midtown Mall might be interested in future projects.

- B. Spartan Drive: Erosion has washed away the newly spread gravel, the second washout of this summer alone. A paved trail might be necessary for this area. Matt Hill and Public Works will look at the issue.

#### 5) New Business:

- A. William Oscar Emery Trailhead: More gravel to be applied around the apron of the sign.
- B. Rail Trail fence: On 12 August Lee and Sam removed the derelict fencing along the RT by the SSYAA baseball field. The fences were very frail and deconstructed easily. The panels were stacked for Parks and Rec to drive in and remove. The area looks improved.
- C. Rail Trail Signage: Signs about non-motorized use have not arrived from the state. Brady noted he received a constituent email/question about signage along the RT. General consensus about using smaller “stickers” from Burpee to cover up ATV logos on signs that pertain to multi-use (e.g. horses, snowmobiles, bikers and walkers). Brady suggested keeping the existing speed limit signs. Thom asked if the current non-motorized policy is permanent.
- D. Rail Trail Policy: All parks currently have the same rules. Lawrence asked if there is a basis for the future park and Brady indicated it might be time to make separate policies for the different types of public recreation areas. A list of ideas for rules to be reviewed next time.
- E. Beaver Deceiver/Culvert: Lawrence has reached out to local experts (e.g. Inland Fish and Wildlife) for their opinion on the existing Beaver Deceiver and the culvert beneath the Rail Trail. Dollie is concerned about removing the culvert and Thom inquired about the extent of new beaver activity on the opposite side of the trail. Sam noted the large amounts of water on either side of the trail but also said this season featured more rainfall than normal. Lawrence summarized Animal Damage Officer Eric Thorpe’s assessment that the problem with the Deceiver lies in the outer cage not being submerged.

6) Closing Remarks: Lawrence talked about new members being needed for the committee. 8 members are currently involved.

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

Meeting ended at 8:15

Respectfully submitted by Sam Parady, Secretary