

Rail Trail Committee Minutes
September 18, 2012

Member attendees: Tim Holiner, Carol Lisbon, Matthew Schmid, Mary McLaughlin, Kate Cannie, Greg Hills, Mark Howe, Elaine Rosenberg

Guests: Martha Bolin, Stephanie Gould, Marie Rotoli

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. It was unanimously voted to appoint Kate Cannie as Chair of the committee.
2. Minutes of 7/10/12 were approved.
3. Updates
 - a. A meeting of Needham, Medfield and Dover was held 9/18. Needham has a \$26,600 quote from Weston & Sampson for an engineering study of their section, using funds from CPA and BCRT.
 - b. Matt Schmid presented a list of similar towns to be used for research and comparisons.
 - c. Kate has reviewed the ADA requirements for recreational paths. As rules and regulations are established by Dover these requirements will be taken into account in establishing a list of acceptable users. Evaluation to consider trail surface, width, turn-around, speed, etc.
 - d. Kate and Elaine have met to set-up a series of informal meetings with abutters and other citizens interested in the recreational path. Three meetings will be held: 9/27 7-8:30 pm, 10/2 10:30-noon, 10/13 10-11:30 am at the Town Library. The purpose of the meetings is to obtain further comments and concerns to insure that all are addressed by the RTC.
 - e. Kate reviewed the email list used to contact concerned citizens. Abutter sign-ups have been disappointing. Over 20 signed up at the Dover Days booth.
 - f. Tim Holiner reported on ConCom's site visit and report from Paul McManus dated 7/24/12. There are a few areas where wetland

protection will be required during construction. When the committee submits an RDA, specific construction plans and processes will need to be submitted. There were no identified areas of concern after construction.

- g. Carol noted that Town Counsel has submitted comments on the MBTA lease in a letter dated 9/17/12 which will be reviewed.
 - h. Carol reported that \$250,000 for a recreational path was included in the Transportation Bond bill recently approved by the State. Appropriation (good for 5 years) is a necessary step but insufficient for actual approval of funds. There are currently no activities to define and request funds.
 - i. Carol spoke with Transit Realty about rail bed maintenance. It is not usually a problem to obtain approval but requires an application filing including specific area to be addressed, description of activities and a \$1000 application fee!
 - j. Mary McLaughlin reviewed findings from her on-going discussions with individuals and organizations regarding interest in participating in a "Friends of..." organization. Boy scouts and DSHS science department head interested.
 - k. Matt Schmid discussed his schedule which complemented Greg's outline.
4. Actions :
- a. **ASAP:** Mark Howe and Tim Holiner to Weston & Sampson for exploration of Dover-specific needs.
 - b. **10/2:** Matt will obtain more information on specifics of comparative towns' paths (length, connections) to aid in refining list to about a dozen communities.
 - c. **ASAP:** Elaine to send meetings announcement to newspaper, Patch, flyers around town, website.
 - d. **ASAP:** Kate to submit new email sign-up list to Bill Calrk for integration into master list.
 - e. Carol to add content to RTC webpage: map, ConCom letter
 - f. Carol to make sure meetings are announced through email list.
 - g. **10/2:** Carol to report on Town Counsel review of MBTA lease and insurance needs
 - h. **10/2:** Wellesley Trails organization to attend 10/2 meeting

- i. Mary McLaughlin to continue exploring feasibility of an active “Friends of” organization with goal of creating core group to assume responsibility for developing a viable organization.
- j. Field trips to other recreational paths need to be scheduled
- k. Plans for walks of Dover’s rail bed need to be developed
- l. Carol Lisbon to schedule RTC visit to
 - i. Council on Aging
 - ii. Board of Health
- m. An RDA to ConCom will be required at some point

5. Next meetings: 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13, 11/27/, 12/11
Open hearing 12/18

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Lisbon