

Rail Trail Committee Minutes
November 27, 2012

Member attendees: Carol Lisbon, Matthew Schmid, Kate Cannie, Mark Howe, Mary McLaughlin

Guests: Bob Coates, Paul Webb, Alan Moss

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting room

1. Minutes of 11/13/12 were approved.
2. Updates
 - a. Mary updated committee on the first of two meetings to assess the viability of a "Friends" organization. (Saturday, November 17 at 10 am at the Library). Three attendees with two expressing interest in being involved with others to create a multi-member leadership team. Ideas generated included a website, legal and fund-raising expertise, reaching out to Dover groups such as the COA and DMA, generating operating by-laws, applying for 501(c)3 status.
 - b. Mark Howe met with Weston and Sampson.
 - c. Tri-Town meeting 11-20: Needham will be going out to bid for engineering services based upon 11-13-12 Town meeting OK to use \$35,000 of CPA funds. They will proceed with rail trail conversion regardless of Dover's decision. Medfield may hold off if Dover does not proceed. IHP has been certified to do business in Massachusetts. Newton provided research on environmental liability: Of 11 towns, 1 (Acton) purchased insurance which expired before construction began. Malden did not buy insurance but did encounter a pre-existing hazardous area of 120 linear feet which MBTA was aware of and is addressing. Remain
 - d. Carol, Matt, Mark, Tim and Elaine walked the rail bed on 11-18-12. Only 6-12 houses were identified as having possible visibility issues. Areas in Wylde Woods with steep embankments noted for need for safety barriers. Passage requires clearing of 3 areas with toppled

trees over rails and some general clean-up of vines and weeds within rails.

- e. Parking: Mark Howe presented map and list of about 125 spaces in the Town center available for parking at various times of week. Weekday availability less. Weekend availability should be no problem. It was suggested that parking at Dedham St. tennis courts, Caryl Park and Chickering Fields can also be used for access at Haven and Springdale crossings. Wylde Wood parking and access also possible. No Parking signage and enforcement suggested on Haven St. and Hunt Dr.
- f. Publicity of recreational path discussed. Wylde Woods approach suggested as model.
- g. Timeline: Town Meeting May 6, 2013. Prior to that Feasibility Study completion (with draft report input from citizens first), several open hearings, scheduled walks, and presentation to Warrant Committee Open Hearing on 3/18/13.

3. Actions :

- a. **11/29:** Mary to hold “Friends” organizational meeting and obtain BCRTA Dover list
- b. **12/11:** Kate to replace Issues list on website with updated Issues list
- c. Kate to continue outreach to the Long-Range Planning to arrange for an update to them.
- d. **12/11:** Matt will obtain more information on specifics of comparative towns’ paths (length, connections, parking, usage, expenses, public safety experience, abutter concerns) to aid in refining list to about a dozen communities.
- e. **12/11:** Kate to draft 2012 Town Report submission
- f. **12/11:** Timeline for January –May 2013 activities to be created
- g. Kate to touch base with Newton legal department.
- h. **12/11:** Carol to report on Town Counsel review of MBTA lease and insurance needs
- i. **12/11:** Mark to develop spreadsheet analyzing parking availability by day and time with seasonal commentary.
- j. Field trips to other recreational paths need to be scheduled
- k. Carol Lisbon to schedule RTC visit to
 - i. Council on Aging

- ii. Board of Health
- l. An RDA to ConCom will be required at some point
- m. Individuals RTC members to begin development of Feasibility Study material.

4. Next meetings: 12/11

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Lisbon

