

Rail Trail Committee Minutes  
October 15, 2013  
Selectmen's Meeting Room

Member attendees: Carol Lisbon, Kate Cannie, Mark Howe, Tim Holiner, Mary McLaughlin, Elaine Rosenburg, Matt Schmid

Guests: Alan Moss

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

1. Minutes of 5/23/13 approved.
2. Updates:
  - a. Newton: going ahead with rail bed conversion in October with IHP; will be taking out environmental liability insurance but no indication of problem; in-house legal staff does not believe that MBTA lease will be a problem if issues arise; IHP has provided simplistic as-builts; soft pack surface with no connections to other paths; abutters supportive
  - b. Needham to vote at 11/4 Town Meeting on 2 articles: authorizing the BOS to enter into a lease with the MBTA for the rail bed between the Charles River and Highrock Road, and \$45,000 from CPA funds for a 5-year \$5M environmental indemnification policy. They will pursue a contract with IHP after Town Meeting. FST is doing some additional work on options to extend path to Needham Junction ( ROW issues with Nstar, MBTA and wetlands). Plan is for a stone dust trail. Fund-raising goal of \$235,000 ( \$100,000 on-going maintenance/escrow fund, \$100K for fencing/ signage/etc per FST recommendations; \$35,000 for 1.5 miles of stone dust)
  - c. MBTA will be checking bridge after summer fire
3. Kate updated committee on the 10/8/13 BOS meeting. The BOS asked the RTC to complete their feasibility study with all information currently available (including all back-up material) and to include a comprehensive discussion of outstanding items/questions that need to be answered by paid professional sources should funds become available.
4. Alan Moss of The Friends of Dover Greenway group reported that they had over 350 supporters signed up. They are pursuing a 501(c)3 designation

with pro bono legal support and will work toward raising funds to gift to the Town to complete the feasibility study. They have organized with a Board of Directors. They had a successful booth at Dover Days, offering bicycle tuning. Matt Schmid offered to be liaison to this group.

**5. Action:**

- a. Kate to get copies of Newton's contract with IHP, engineering drawings, any MBTA lease changes, and details on their environmental indemnity terms/cost.
- b. All members to review their sections of the draft Feasibility Study and provide updates, back-up material prior to the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 10/30 8:30 am

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lisbon