

Trails Coordinating Task Force

Thursday, December 4, 2014

4 PM Groton Senior Center

Minutes

I. Call to Order

Berry called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM.

II. Attendance

Members in Attendance: Mark Berry, Debra Marshall-Baker, A. Neil Brown,
Denise Descheneaux, Deb Jones, Carla Henschal

Alternates in Attendance: Sidney Van Zandt

Members Absent: June Evered, Bernie French, Bruce McDermott, Eric Morrison,
Gail Munn, Brae Rafferty, Bea Reynolds, Joan Smith, Rich Stevens, Joellen
Anderson

Guests in Attendance: Jon Reiner, Director Planning and Development

III. Citizen's Petitions, Comments and Concerns - None

IV. Approval of Minutes – October 23, 2014

MOTION: To approve the minutes of October 23, 2014

Motion by Van Zandt, seconded by Marshall-Baker, so voted unanimously.

V. Correspondence/Communication - None

VI. Reports

A. Avalonia - None

B. Copp Property - Berry reported that trail construction will start next week.

C. Cross Town Trail – Van Zandt reported that the new GIS Coordinator has started work and she would like to meet with her to finalize mapping. She also reported that there are invasive plants encroaching on the trail in the Mortimer Wright property and she would like to coordinate its removal.

D. GOSA – None

E. Town Trails – Marshall-Baker reported that the remaining work at the east end of the G&S Trolley Trail will not be completed.

F. TriTown Trails - None

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. New Business

A. Trail Information Event – This item was tabled to the next meeting.

B. Bike, Pedestrian & Trail Master Plan reviewed with Jon Reiner, Director of Planning

Berry introduced Jon Reiner, Director of Planning and Development Services. Reiner was asked to attend to provide input into the update of the 2005 Master Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trail Plan. Marshall-Baker distributed an annotated Improvement List from the Plan that denotes what projects have been completed. Berry asked the Committee to review the priority level for each project.

Van Zandt suggested that bike lanes be considered when Public Works is planning paving projects. Brown suggested that sidewalk infill around schools should be a priority.

Marshall-Baker reviewed the list of completed projects. She noted that a number of sidewalks and bike lanes have been completed near the Subase, a few small projects have been completed near schools and several sidewalks have been built as part of subdivision and site plan approvals. The G&S Trolley Trail has also been improved.

Reiner noted that the plan has a lot of expensive projects listed as having high priority. He suggested that the Committee identify the top 5 or 10 and focus on those. Categorizing so many projects as high priority is essentially meaningless. Jones suggested the Committee focus on just the trail recommendations. Reiner suggested that ball-park cost estimates be developed to help set priorities.

Van Zandt suggested construction of a bridge across the stream behind Cutler Middle School and improvements to the Beebe Pond Dam.

Henschal left the meeting at 4:45.

Brown suggested focusing on trail development in the Copp Property.

The Committee agreed that the following projects be their priority for development:

- Connect the G&S Trolley Trail (formerly Lily Lane Multi-Use Trail) to Sutton Park
- Connect the G&S Trolley Trail to Fitch High School
- Continue the G&S Trolley Trail west to Industrial Drive and Bluff Point
- Provide a connection from the G&S Trolley Trail to Mumford Cove for shell fishing
- Develop a multi-use trail from Depot Road, along South Road to Thomas Road
- Construct a bridge across the stream behind Cutler Middle School

- Improve the trail across Beebe Pond dam
- Continue to develop trails on the Copp Property

Berry will ask the Public Works Department to develop general cost estimates for each project.

IX. Next meeting – January 22, 2015, 4 pm Groton Senior Center

X. Adjournment

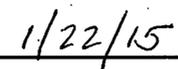
MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 5:23 PM

Motion by Marshall-Baker, seconded by Descheneaux, so voted unanimously.

Minutes have been approved and accepted.



Signature



Date