

Trails Coordinating Task Force

Thursday, February 26, 2015

4 PM Groton Senior Center

Meeting Minutes

I. **Call to Order**

II. **Attendance**

Members in Attendance: Mark Berry, Deb Jones, Joan Smith, Eric Morrison, Joellen Anderson, Denise Descheneaux

Alternates in Attendance: Sidney VanZandt

Members Absent: Neil Brown, June Evered, Bernie French, Carla Henschel, Debralyn Marshall-Baker, Bruce McDermott, Gail Munn, Brae Rafferty, Bea Reynolds, Rick Steven

Guests in Attendance: None

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

IV. **Approval of Minutes – January 22, 2015**

MOTION: To approve the minutes of January 22, 2015.

Motion by **JOAN SMITH**, second by **JOELLEN ANDERSON**, so voted unanimously.

V. **Correspondence/Communication** – None

VI. **Reports** - There were no reports given

- A. Avalonia
- B. Copp Property
- C. Cross Town Trail
- D. GOSA
- E. Town Trails
- F. TriTown Trails

VII. **Old Business**

- A. Trail Information Event

VIII. **New Business**

- A. Short and Long Term Goals

Berry reported that the Town Council created this Committee for a period of three years and its authorization will expire in January 2016. He asked the Committee members to review the Council established goals to assess what has been accomplished and to determine whether there is other work that should be done before January.

The Committee reviewed the progress made on each goal as follows:

Planning and Development of Trails in Accordance with the Trails Master Plan – The recommendations have been reviewed and projects prioritized. Public Works is working on cost estimates for the top priority projects for inclusion in the Capital Improvement Program.

Seek Funding Sources for Trail Development and Assist in Securing Funds – No progress, little Committee activity. The Committee discussed various methods of researching grant availability.

Make Recommendations Regarding Signage, Markings and Use Policies – Progress made including the development of a trail logo and the interactive on-line trail map.

Serve as Education and Advocacy Group for Use and Expansion of Trail Network – Progress made with the development of the interactive on-line trail map.

The Committee discussed other advocacy projects including the recruitment of volunteers to lead hikes, building on the outdoor program at Kolnaski Elementary School and Cutler Middle School, involving children in hiking programs at the Boys and Girls Club and the Summer Camp thru Parks and Recreation and taking advantage of Eagle Scout projects to improve trails. Other potential opportunities discussed to raise awareness were Trails booth at Fall Festival, start a First Day Hike program similar to state park program. Promote geo-caching as a way to get families out on to the trails.

B. Election of Secretary

This item was postponed to the next meeting.

IX. **Next meeting** – March 26, 2015, 4 pm Groton Senior Center

X. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:45

Minutes have been approved and accepted.



Signature

3/26/15

Date