

Trails Coordinating Task Force

Thursday, October 22, 2015
4:00 PM Groton Senior Center
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order - 4:10 PM

II. Attendance

- a. **Members in Attendance:** Joellen Anderson, Mark Berry, June Evered, Carla Henschel, Debralyn Marshall-Baker, Gail Munn, Joan Smith
- b. **Alternates in Attendance:**
- c. **Members Absent:** A. Neil Brown, Denise Descheneaux, Bernie French, Deb Jones, Bruce McDermott, Eric Morrison, Brae Rafferty, Bea Reynolds, Rick Stevens
- d. **Guests in Attendance:** Jenna Gosselin – Town of Groton IT

III. Citizen's Petitions, Comments and Concerns

None

IV. Approval of Minutes – June 25, 2015

No changes. Motion to accept by June Evered, seconded by Joan Smith.
Approved with a unanimous vote.

V. Correspondence/Communication

None

VI. New Business

- a. **Trails – Mobile App** ”
Postponed until after VII d.

Jenna Gosselin – GIS Coordinator for Town, developed a mobile app for trails. Not on Town website.

Maps.groton-ct.gov/apps/webappers/viewer

Mark will send this to everyone. To use this app one needs a smart phone/tablet with 3G phone data. The app has a “find me” button. It

also has a draw tool for personal notes, can measure distance, find Latitude and Longitude, however, it does not have trail profiles yet. Has a layer list for editing appearance and info. An aerial base map is available. Swipe tool shifts between base map and aerial imagery. Includes legends and help button to explain widgets. Suggestion for user guide mobile website. Eventually get a scanner to get app with town trailhead barcode. Add an address field so people using GIS locators can find it.

b. Proposed Trail Project Review

We had identified 5-6 projects off the initial 2004 list. A request was made of Public Works to pull information for costs. In September - costs were delivered to Mark B. Information was passed around to those in attendance.

Final Project Priority List

1. Pedestrian Bridge at Cutler Middle School Trail - \$30,000
2. Knoxville Court to Depot Road – new road, 1,500 ft., to Industrial - \$35,000
3. Lilly Lane to Fitch High School – Cross Country after Water P.S. Drive - \$280,000
4. Knoxville Court to Sutton Park – biker lanes, 2,700 ft., widen Knoxville Rd - \$48,000
5. Depot Road to Thomas Road – put out to engineering firm to explore possibilities and options. Shared path. Will have public forums on this.

All are qualified to go into CIP schedule.

c. Meeting Schedule for 2016

Original proposal to Town Council: Would meet monthly to January 2016. The Task Force has made significant steps and would like to continue to meet, but perhaps not on a monthly basis.

Mark's proposal to meet 4 times a year on the 3rd Thursday of March, June, September and 1st Thursday of December, with an option for special meetings as needed. One advantage of continuing is to increase eligibility for grants.

2016 Schedule: March 24; June 23; Sept 22; December 1

Joan Smith made Motion to continue the Trails Task Force Meetings, Joellen Anderson seconded. Vote – Unanimous YES

Motion made by Joellen Anderson to meet four times a year (see details above), Joan Smith seconded, no discussion. Vote – Unanimous YES

Mark shared information about Webinar – review requirements for Trails per ADA accessibility. Apply mostly to Federal land. Mark will forward email to everybody.

VII. Reports

a. Avalonia

Good turnout for Walktober. 42 people for American Revolution program. Art for Conservation this Saturday night. ~~Trial~~ work – reducing phagmytis on Towns End. Tree I.D. signs added to trail. ^{TRAIL}

b. Copp Property

Summer – working on new trail and bridge. 90% complete – still problem with run off. On April 22, 2016, will do a ribbon cutting. Once finished (loop trail) will be just under 2 miles. New kiosk at entrance for trail map. Several trail head posts and arrows installed. Continue this work through the winter.

c. Cross Town Trail

No much to report. Needs some moving at Mortimer. Also a downed tree needs to be removed.

d. GOSA

Joan had good news:

1. State is going to buy Tilcon – GOSA to raise matching funds of 20%. State need to own it and insure it. GOSA does day to day stuff.
2. receiving a grant from the Lamb Farm, with an agreement, but not finalized with the family yet.

Pitch Pine habitat of interest to state forestry project which goes from I-95 to I-84. Gosa will negotiate what parts to manage. Green Belt from Bluff to Ledyard.

Presentation of GIS Smart Phone App took place at this point.

e. Town Trails

No Report.

f. **TriTown Trails**

Trying to negotiate ROWs in Preston. Haven't started with anything yet.

VIII. Unfinished Business

a. **Trail Information Event**

Best done with paid staff? Parks and Recreation has publicity and resources, if everyone took responsibility for getting two (2) vendors. Need a coordinator for this Advocacy Project.

b. **Advocacy Projects**

Last time we met discussed volunteers to lead a walk for kids. The kids sent thank you notes. Joan Smith and Bruce McDermott helped. Had two (2) different groups that went out on walks. The kids, 9 year olds, had a great time.

c. **Norcross Wildlife Foundation Grant**

Had to go to Finance Sub Committee of the Town Council. Need the Town Council's blessing to print multicolor trail maps. Maps would sell for \$1 at Town Hall, Library, Public Works and at events.

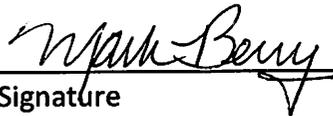
IX. Next meeting December 3, 2015, 4 pm Groton Senior Center

X. Adjournment

Pins and flags are being removed on the Tilcon survey. Someone is vandalizing pins. It's not a development!

Motion to adjourn made by Gail Munn, seconded by Joan Smith. Unanimous – Yes.

Minutes have been approved and accepted.



Signature

12/3/15
Date