

TOWN OF NORFOLK
Rails to Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes: Thursday, January 14, 2016

Town Hall, Norfolk, CT - Because the committee did not have access to the Town Hall, the meeting was moved to the home of Chairman Dave Beers at 18 Maple Ave.

Present: Dave Beers, Bill Couch, Michelle Childs, Rob Gilchrest, DaVere Oakes & Matt Riiska

Michelle Childs was sworn in by Bill Couch as the newest official member of the committee.

Meeting Called to Order: 7:10 PM

Motion by DB to make MR the acting secretary for the meeting. BC 2nd Passed

Dave Beers asked committee members to report on current updates.

DaVere reported:

Jerry had a discussion with a representative of the Farmington Valley Trails Council, more information to follow.

She has spoken to Julie Scharnberg in regards to available grants. She will follow up with Julie.

Rob Gilchrest:

Has updated the map and has distributed it to committee members. As changes are made he will continue to make modification to the map.

He will be working on drawings of sections of the map showing what the current rail bed looks like and what how it will be changed. These new drawings will be available to be included in grant packages in the future.

He will be working on cost estimates for the northern portion of the project; the Billings Trail (Stoney Lonesome) & the North Brook Trail.

Bill Couch

Discussion on what portion of the trail will be developed first. It was decided that the northern portion will be the first priority, focusing on the Billings (Stoney Lonesome), the North Brook and the Wood Creek Trails.

DB made a motion to accept this plan. RG 2nd Passed

Discussion on selling the plan to adjacent land owners. There has been some reluctance by some landowners whose properties abut the proposed trail to accept the plan. The committee will have further discussion on how to best ease the concerns of those individuals.

Matt Riiska

Will look into the land owned by Michael Sinclair which could be used as an access point to the North & Wood Creek Trails.

Open Discussion:

Need to open discussion with the Connecticut DEEP in regards to the use of the Wood Creek Trail

Work Party being organized to work on the North Trail set for Saturday, January 23 at 2:00 PM, weather permitting. DB to send out email for volunteers. DB will contact the Regional DEEP manager.

BC motion to set date for Work Party, MC 2nd Passed

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at: 8:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Matt Riiska, Acting Secretary