

TOWN OF NORFOLK  
Rails to Trails Committee

Mission Statement: “To develop a multiple use handicapped accessible trail through Norfolk utilizing parts of the existing railroad bed.”

Meeting Minutes: Thursday, May 12, 2016

Town Hall, Norfolk, CT

Committee Members Present: Dave Beers, Bill Couch, Michelle Childs, Matt Riiska, Bob Gilchrist, Erick Olsen

Others Present: Jerry Oakes

Meeting Called to Order: 7:10 PM

Review of minutes for February 11, 2016, March 11, 2016 & April 14 meetings; Motion MC to accept minutes as presented, Second BG; Passed – Unanimous

Bob Gilchrist

Has updated the Rails to Trails map.

Presented the DOT maps from 1937 where the trail crosses Rt 272.

Discussion of the DOT’s plans to redo the culvert that goes underneath Rt 272 where the North Brook & the Wood Creek trails meet. Committee will start a discussion with the DOT to see if a larger culvert could be used to connect the (2) trails.

Cross Section of the Trail

- Bob reviewed the cross section of the trail showing that the trail would be 10’ wide and would consist of a base possibly made from lime stone trailings which will provide a base that is stable as required by ADA regs.

Bill Couch:

Will be updating the Norfolk Land Trust at their meeting on Sunday, May 15

Bill has completed the use form for the Haystack Mountain portion of the trail and has submitted it to the DEEP

Further discussion on:

- The use of limestone as a trial base.
- Who will be responsible for maintaining the trail.
- Access for emergency vehicles
- Easements with the town.

Matt Riiska:

Matt will contact Richard Byrne to continue discussions about using a portion of the St. Mary’s Cemetery property for parking.

## Fund Raising

Jerry Oakes has been in contact with the representative for the National Rails to Trails Association. He will look into what funding sources are available thru them.

He has contacted the DEEP in regards to state funds available. He will follow-up with them in August once the current state budget issues are reviewed

Michelle has completed and submitted the paperwork AKC Fund funding. The Rails to Trails Committee will receive \$5000.

Michelle will contact Sue Dyer in regards to where Rails to Trails funds will be placed until needed.

## Weekend in Norfolk, August 5, 6, & 7

The Rails to Trails Committee will set up information in (2) places; the Farmers Market & the information tent on the Green.

Motion to set up booth at the Farmers Market & to display information at the Green: DB,  
Second: BG, Passed Unanimous

Bob discussed the making of a video showing the route of the trail and highlighting the future plans for the trail with Chris Little. Chris has mentioned the possibility of using his drone to video the planned route.

Chris suggested having a script written

## Mission Statement:

Motion to add the phrase “existing railroad bed” to the mission statement; Motion: DB,  
Second: EO, Passed Unanimous

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at: 8:26 PM, Motion DB

Respectfully Submitted

Matt Riiska, Secretary