

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

October 20

Condensed from draft minutes

Present: Alex Bernhard, Steve Darling, Tom Frantz, Craig Heim, Lindy Heim, Mike Loomis, Charles Martin, Steve Rayno, Peter Southworth, Bob Ward, and Chuck Hoheisel

Old Business

RTP 2010 Report: After achieving our goals of building trail into Franklin, we have approximately \$800 remaining from our RTP grant to use for repair work on two trail areas that have washed out. Charles raised the issue of continuing into Franklin, and we discussed the need for Franklin to assert more community support as well as maintenance of the trail. Bob will contact the Franklin mayor and city manager with Steve Rayno and Fred Hofmeister to express our need for support so we can continue building trail.

Another option is to focus the 2011 RTP grant request to improve the two miles of trail from Danbury to Grafton County. Bob discussed the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant as a possibility for future funding.

TE Report: The stone dust has been applied, and now the bridge construction is underway and projected to be completed in three weeks. We plan on a trail opening/celebration in the spring.

Action Items

Maintenance: Peter will take pictures of the finished trail in Danbury, and he and Steve Rayno will work on posting trail use signs.

Merrimack County Offer of Community Work Service: Craig is waiting to hear about fall weekend dates when workers might be available.

Kit Morgan's Response on Rail Removal: Alex has heard that some rails will be picked up this fall.

Peter Crowell Ride on October 9: Lindy's organization and a beautiful day contributed to a successful event.

New Business

Myra will invite Tilton Manager Joyce Fulweiler to a meeting.

Peter will contact Steve Robinson about his offer to help on Danbury maintenance.

November 17

Condensed from draft minutes

Present: Alex Bernhard, Steve Darling, Craig Heim, Lindy Heim, Mike Loomis, Charles Martin, Peter Southworth, Bob Ward, Fred Hoffmeister, Nita Tomaszewski, and Chuck Hoheisel

Treasurer's Report: Steve distributed his report and noted a \$500 donation from the Upper Merrimack Valley Local Area Committee and \$250 from membership donations. A delayed payment from the Town of Andover to Edmunds is resolved. The report was approved.

Old Business

Technology Report: Heather is registering a new domain name for the new site which will be a lead-in to our present site and that of the FNRT – Grafton County.

RTP 2011 Application: Charles

spoke to the need for a manager for the Boscawen/South Franklin area to step forward to oversee the next trail building phase. The Boscawen selectmen will hopefully be the municipal managers. Lyman Cousins and Norm LaPierre are two possibilities to manage, and Charles suggested that Fred and Nita might consider facilitating the next two miles of trail. He will e-mail last year's proposal to Nita to consider.

Charles also brought up the Trails Bureau's refusal to pay for testing for hard pack, even with four examples of poor trail material leading to problems on state trails.

TE report: The surface work is being finished, and Alex estimates two to three weeks to finish the job. Alex wants to get reflectors for the bridges, and town boundary markers are being installed. Some culverts are also blocked.

Alex also discussed the Danbury to Grafton 1.5 mile stretch that has not been covered in stone dust. In January, Alex would like to discuss raising money to rebuild this section of trail.

Maintenance: Peter spoke to Greg Miller of the Andover Snowmobile Club to coordinate in the future, and Stephen Robinson of Danbury is "adopting" two miles of trail in Danbury. Fred H. spoke about repairing the washouts on the new section of Franklin trail and his work to get the city to repair the two problems.

In regard to ATV use or vandalism, Fred has not observed much of a problem. Fred spoke to Lieutenant Clough about the issue, and we discussed a grant for funds to pay for police or New Hampshire Fish and Game to patrol the trail.

Merrimack County offer of community work service: As the season is now over, we will wait for the spring to identify a date.

Danbury Selectmen: Alex met with the Danbury selectmen and discussed a trail opening in the spring as well as parking area just off High Street. Lindy met John Taylor of the Upper Valley Trail Alliance, who might support a future trail function.

New Business

Nita Tomaszewski, one of the Franklin representatives of the Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee. Nita talked about her support for the Rail Trail as a resource for the state and local area. She lives in the Abigail Webster House on the trail and is considering serving on the FNRT board as well as being project manager for the next stretch of trail.

It was moved to nominate Nita Tomaszewski as a board member. The motion was seconded and unanimously voted in favor.

Signage Needs: Alex hopes to connect our trail with the Winne Trail through signs in the future. A kiosk by the new Potter Place parking lot was discussed, but the feeling was we should wait until a connector trail is established.

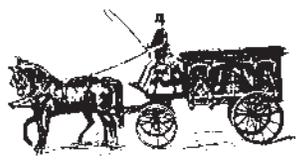
Black Mtn from page 22

Forest Society goes through, Hotz said. "Management-wise, it's much more viable to manage a large parcel than a collection of smaller ones. This has been and will continue to be a working forest, and we can prove that you do that responsibly," Hotz said, "by responsibly harvesting trees and contributing to the local economy with work for loggers, mills, and in the end, locally-sourced wood products. You take some local wood and turn that into a great piece of furniture for your house. It's all good."

For more information about the Black Mountain project, visit SPNH.org.

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