

Trails Committee Minutes June 28, 2016 **APPROVED 7/26/2016**

Attending: Ken Clark, Ann Keilty, Gary Keilty, Rob Peale, Bob Harris, Jeannie Harris, Hank Laidlaw, Christine Sammons, Romaine Turyn, Will Harris, Greg Durgin

Absent excused: Nancy Buker, Karen Peterson, Becky Walsh

Guests: Korda Kinzie, Ed Dodge

Meeting called to order at 6:31 by Chair G. Keilty

Readfield Water District

With two guests from the Readfield Water District present for a preliminary discussion regarding a possible trail being developed on property across from the Readfield Fairgrounds, the regular agenda was taken up after the discussion with the guests.

Ed Dodge and Korda Kinzie presented two maps of the land area available for a trail along with a history of the land. Chair Keilty and Ed had previously walked the area to look for possible trail locations. Discussion centered on location, terrain, an easement, and possible connectivity to other parcels of land. There are approximately + - 20 acres of land in the parcel. There needs to be a discussion of the water district board for approval before moving forward. A snowmobile trail proposal several years ago on the water district land had not been approved due to environmental concerns. Discussion will continue once we hear back from the water district representatives.

Regular Agenda:

May Minutes: Romaine motioned to accept May meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Rob Peale. Motioned carried unanimously 10-0

Treasurer's Report: Jeannie reported the account balance is \$150.25.

Election of Officers 2016-17: Motion by Greg nominating Gary Keilty as Chair. Seconded by Rob. Motion carried unanimously 10-0. Motion by Rob nominating Greg Durgin as Vice Chair. Seconded by Will Harris. Motioned carried 9-1 (Greg D.) Motion by Rob nominating Jeannie Harris as Treasurer. Seconded by Romaine. Motion passed unanimously 10-0. Motion by Ann that the Secretary position be rotated monthly through the members. Seconded by Romaine. Motion carried unanimously 10-0. Ann agreed to take notes at the August meeting.

Meeting Time: Discussion involving length of meetings. A proposal was approved to list a time allotment next to each agenda item to move the meetings along. A time keeper will keep the members apprised of the time being spent. Greg to serve as timekeeper.

Church Road: Romaine provided information on a site visit that she, Eric Dyer, Darcy Whittemore, and a rep from DOT made regarding possible solutions to speeding and safety concerns on Church Road. Signage, speed bumps, crosswalk painting, and possible sidewalk construction were discussed. Eric will be taking the lead on further action in discussions with the Select Board. Darcy and Romaine agreed to be part of any possible future sidewalk committee.

Strategic Plan: Kudos to Ken for writing an article for the Messenger detailing the purpose behind and the details of the Trails Committee Strategic Plan. It was noted that Robin does a great job editing and getting the Messenger out each month.

Landfill Trail Project: The Select Board last fall toured the section of the old landfill area looking at it as a possible trail location. The board at that time was in favor of a trail if a safe parking area could be established. A site visit in November by members of the Trail Committee toured the area again and then contact was made with RSU # 38 and the town received permission for parking at the bus garage located next to the transfer station. There will be a presentation to the Select Board in the future by Rob and Ken regarding this possible trail.

Election results: Committee members expressed their gratitude for the overwhelming support shown on voting day by residents in passing the trails budget.

Fairgrounds Trail Maintenance: Gary explained that several members of the Trails Committee donated several hours in mid June doing maintenance on the trails. Mowing, weed whacking, and raking were accomplished but there is more to do. Another work day will be held soon. A new trail sign was put in on Kents Hill Road on Sunday, June 26 that points to the trail leading to the Mill Stream Dam area.

Fall Hearing on Future Work: The idea of having a hearing / meeting with residents in the fall regarding town owned properties was discussed. Greg agreed to bring the idea to the Conservation Commission's next meeting.

Other: Romaine asked for information regarding the Readfield Trails logo signs placed around town prior to the elections. The signs were donated by Friends of the Readfield Trails. No town money was spent on the signs. Some members of the Trails Committee did help with placing them and removing them after the election.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm followed by a dessert to thank Hank, Karen, and Will for their dedicated service to the Trails Committee. They will be missed!