

Readfield Trails Committee Minutes

June 26, 2018

Present: Nancy Buker, Ken Clark, Jeanne Harris, Bob Harris, Greg Leimbach, Ben McIntosh, Rob Peale, Holly Rahmlow

Excused: Greg Durgin, Henry Whittemore

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

Jeanne reported that the current balance in our account remains \$1,688. There will be a charge for some posts Bob had to buy.

Ken passed out screen prints of some trails he mapped using Don's software. He has already walked most of the town trails. Rob said he talked to KLT, and Jean-Luc he would give Don everything he has. Ken has done some KLT trails, so it will be a matter of comparing the data.

As for snowmobile trails, Nancy is not sure if they have all been GPSed. She provided Ken with contact information for some of the club officers so he can see what they have available.

The Appalachian Mountain Club crew has already started work and did some bridges at the Torsey Pond Nature Preserve.

Volunteers are needed to weed whack the Fairgrounds trail near Route 17. Some members said they could help Wednesday or over the weekend.

Greg D. wants volunteers to help with the August fun day. Holly said she'd help.

Greg L. said he's been in touch with the International Volks Vanderham (a group which sponsors a march/walk) people. There is a local branch in Falmouth. These events are popular in Europe. In Germany there is a tent for food and beer at the end. Greg is thinking maybe in October we could hold something similar. It is unclear how any fundraising would be accomplished, but it would be a good way to bring attention to the trails and get us some publicity.

Jeanne suggested we might give out beer steins or glasses with writing on them to people who finish the walk. Greg said if we're interested he could find out more details. Greg is going to look into joining the local group, the Southern Maine Volkssport Association, with an eye to seeing how we might establish an event here and possibly even make money out of it.

Greg D. got Eric's OK on Nancy's idea to put envelopes in kiosks on the trail to solicit volunteers or donations. It was decided that we can use plain black horizontal mailboxes to hold the envelopes, which

will include a printed card with all the necessary information. The cards and envelopes will go into plastic bags to keep them dry.

Holly made a motion to authorize Nancy to purchase the mailboxes, as well as 100 envelopes, cards and bags, which Ben seconded and all approved. We decided we need four kiosks, possibly five if we do one on the Torsey trail. Rob will ask KLT about whether that will be allowed and let Nancy know.

Ben said he might be able to obtain a discount for the mailboxes, or possibly even get them for free from Home Depot, where he works part time. He will work with Nancy on that.

Nancy will bring in a template for the cards next month so we can approve the content.

Ben had previously volunteered to be our representative to the Select Board committee on the solar panel project, but he is unable to attend the meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 28. Rob said he could go.

At the July meeting we will be electing officers, so everyone is to think about who might do what job.

We decided we probably don't need any more signs. Rob said once he finishes blazing and cuts some alders, the Esker Trail should be quite clear.

Nancy suggested we put up a sign warning people that there are lots of ticks. We decided we can use a laminated sign. That can also be purchased at Staples along with the envelopes and cards for the kiosk.

Rob asked that we not use tax maps as a basis for our maps because they are inaccurate and can mislead property owners about whose property trails are on. The Esker Trail provides a perfect example of this.

The map committee will ask Don about using something else for the basis of our trail maps. Topo maps could be good, and we do want to include roads.

Bob said they've nixed the metal ring around the top of the Mill Stream Dam because the quote was too high — \$7,000. They are going to use a split rail fence to cover the area where it's dangerous. They can't cement them in, so they'll be in buckets of stone.

Bob took care of the open well and kiln we discussed at the last meeting. He covered them with discarded metal roofing he got from the Transfer Station. Thank you, Bob!

The next meeting will be July 24. Rob said he won't be there.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Holly Rahmlow