

**PARKS & TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD**  
**March 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes**  
**6:07pm**

Present: *Charlotte Lomino III, Colleen O'Neil, Stacey Allott, Leigh Walrath, Katrina Glynn (VSL Community Development Director)*

Approval of meeting minutes: *Motion Charlotte, Second Leigh*

Minutes:

1. Letters of Interest and Open Positions:
  - a. *[redacted]*
2. Updates
  - a. Complete Streets Document/Lake Flower Ave Complete Streets Assessment
    - i. Complete Streets plan completed on 3/8 and sent to Village Board.
    - ii. *Katrina to send Lake Flower Complete Streets Assessment to engineer for scoping and grants possibilities being looked into for sewer and water work.*
    - iii. Leigh said the Village should look into the Lake Champlain Basin Program as they have a lot of funds available for grants which this would likely apply and are looking for applicants. *Katrina will check with the Village.*
    - iv. Charlotte will be on the Capital Improvement Plan Committee.
  - b. Mt. Pisgah
    - i. Katrina said Andy is supportive of Ebike signage and Leigh said BETA will have signs that state trails are for Class 1 Ebikes only.
  - c. Rail Trail Education
    - i. Kendra Ormerod has not replied back to Colleen about any education materials available, and she spoke to Keith Carrow from DEC at the Saranac Lake 3P event and he had no info on materials available and just handles the operations of the trail.
    - ii. *Steve and Colleen to keep following up with Kendra as she is our main contact.*
    - iii. In case we don't get any materials to promote/distribute from DEC in time for busy season coming, Colleen suggested the Village put out friendly PSAs that trail users must stop at crossings and yield to vehicles (if this is true), and that vehicles should follow speed limits or under and be vigilant for trail users. *Charlotte to look into the difference between trail crossing and pedestrian crossing and see who has the right-of-way.*
    - iv. Katrina suggested an article in the newspaper and then the Village can share that to their social media.
    - v. Katrina added the DEC's rail trail site link to the PTAB site.
    - vi. Colleen noted that the Berkeley Green wayfinding signs do not include rail trail.
  - d. Rail Trail Crossings and Connection
    - i. Colleen reported some concerns with two Village crossings and a connection: Pine Street/Dugway/Main Street.

1. Colleen found a dumping area in the woods visible from Rail Trail on DEC property right before the Pine Street and Fawn Street crossing, Colleen will report to DEC. DEC's volunteers/ARTA/Village may be responsible for Rail-Trail clean-up depending on who owns the land. The idea was floated to add the Village rail trail properties to the Annual Village Wide Cleanup, but a follow-up plan to make this happen was not discussed.
  2. Katrina said that the Village has hired a consultant to assess Village crossings, and invited Colleen to send her findings to be included.
  3. Multiple paths to a solution for the Dugway/Main Street connections were discussed. Charlotte still supports a type of advisory bike lane treatment. The idea of a sidewalk installation and one-way street was also brought up. The best idea may be to see what happens this year on the trail?
  4. Katrina asked PTAB to create a visual of the biking network through the Village so we can create a larger plan vs. just addressing some streets. Charlotte to reach out to Jamie about previous map created and see if map can be easily expanded without high expertise on map softwares. Map should include lists of things that must happen for network to be viable such as one-way streets, removal of parking, etc.
- e. Community Enhancement Fund (CEF)/Ward Plumadore
    - i. First meeting tomorrow re: Ward Plumadore Park. Colleen and Stacey are representing PTAB and will report back at the next meeting.
  - f. Annual Report
    - i. Report is finished and Katrina will distribute and post once she gets approval from Village.
  - g. Village Budget
    - i. Charlotte submitted PTAB's requests for firepits \$1000 and \$4500 each for bike racks and pedestrian and rail trail safety.
    - ii. Colleen thought that Jamie said in the past that Village had extra bike racks in storage from last order; Katrina to check with DPW.
      1. UPDATE: The village DPW has 5+/- bike racks in storage. They are not the Saranac Lake-branded ones
  - h. Baldwin Park
    - i. APA has challenged the boardwalks as they view them as impacting the wetlands unnecessarily. They want us to remove them from the design.
    - ii. Katrina suggested some ideas to use the funding for the boardwalks for other things like pavilion electricity, interpretive signs on other walkways, ADK chairs, BBQ, expand docks. Concerns were raised with the change and it affecting kayak access and ADA accessibility. Leigh to work with Katrina to address APA's wetland concerns regarding boardwalks. Stacy to message Katrina with some dock options.
3. Discussion:
    - a. Coordination with other advisory boards

- i. Charlotte is now in a group chat with Jerry (DAB) and Kirk (SLACAB) for easy coordination between boards.
- ii. Charlotte to message Jerry about coordinating bike rack locations walk-through.

4. New business

- a. DOT letter follow-up
  - i. Still no word on follow-up. Important peoples have been difficult to contact. Colleen to follow up on DOT Letter about DOT managed crossings is pending update from Rich who contacted DEC previously.
- b. NALMS Firework Water Testing study
  - i. Tyler Merriam brought a volunteer opportunity to our attention for water testing around the Fourth of July fireworks on Lake Flower. Leigh said due to current/flow that it may not make sense and give an accurate result. Leigh will contact Brendan Wiltse to confirm. Katrina mentioned she did speak with Saranac Lake Winter Carnival and they will partner with the Village on clean up efforts.
  - ii. The Village met with Rob Russell (Chariman of Winter Carnival) about fireworks. Dustin and Bachana (DPW and Village Manager, respectfully) attended. All agreed to take more concerted effort on firework clean-up enforcement.
- c. Katrina to ask what happens to Rich Shapiro's email after he is gone. Will it forward to his personal email? Will someone check it? Etc.

5. Meeting adjourned 7:25pm. *Motion Leigh, Second Stacey*