

PARKS & TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2023
6:00 p.m.

Meeting commenced 6:04 p.m.

In attendance: Colleen, Steve, Jamie, Rich, Ezra, Rebecca, Charli, Jimmy, Leigh, Stacey
Approval of November minutes, Ezra motioned, Steve seconded, approved.

1. Introductions – Welcome new PTAB member Leigh Walrath and Stacey Allott

2. Discussion with Brian Woods, Executive Director of ARTA:

- Snowmobiles on Rail Trail and in the village: Goal is to work with PTAB and have decisions brought to municipalities in advance, so they are not making decisions for Saranac Lake.
- Website(s): To consolidate information and trail conditions, as well as a potential new App for the Rail Trail. Brian is going to be able to be the center of disseminating information about the Rail Trail
- PTAB to make recommendations for the Village Website to be funneled to ARTA website (Linked to): Strong tool for PTAB. Brian would like our feedback: what's working, what's not, what information we need. Brian would like a map of where you CAN ride snowmobiles, similar to Tupper Lake – currently map of where you CAN'T ride.
- Speed limit and challenges with enforcing it.
- Discussion on annual repair costs: DEC pays \$1500 per mile to keep trail in suitable condition – ARTA (and others) would like to contribute to that – would like to volunteer their time. Steve suggested baseline report documentation for impacts to trails that will eat up budget, like erosion, etc. Documenting usage will be important to show what we need to do to protect this resource.
- Crossings: Still deciding on crossing lights, etc. Readjusting the angle of the approach to make it closer to 90 degrees (like at Fowler's Crossing).
- Community Outreach: Rich pointed out that we really need more information working with Snowmobile Clubs for following laws and guidelines.
- Fundraising: ARTA has funding which needs to be used by April.

3. Annual Report:

- Steve will submit 2 bullets by Friday.
- Leigh will contact Josh for anything new to report from BETA.
- Ezra will contact Andy regarding upgrades, increasing wages for employees, approval for report.
- Jamie will wrap up the remainder.

4. Old Business:

- DRI projects still on hold until spring season: nothing new to report.
- Mt. Pisgah: amount of volunteer hours needed is a question. Jamie will request stat for Annual Report for the number of hours that go into running Pisgah.
- Trail Stewards – nothing new to report.

- Baldwin Park Redesign: Ezra emailed Jamie a draft for a letter to the Village Board asking to reconsider the new Baldwin Park redesign. Jamie will take a look at the draft and determine who may be helpful in assisting – potentially Jordanna, Lindy, Jeremy.
- Leaf grant, Public Art in Prescott Park: there were 36 proposals, there is a \$10,000 budget for one artist. Jamie submitted the grant, will know by May, we could possibly do 2 installations instead of one.
- Fireworks Cleanup: there were enough volunteers, 10 each weekend. Once everything thaws they will do one last sweep.

Adjourn: 7:56 p.m.