



Minutes

Danvers Rail Trail Advisory Committee

December 15, 2016

- **Attendees**

- RTAC Members: Paul McNulty, Nancy McNulty, Charles Lincicum, Lori Dupont, Laura Cilley, Matthew Duggan, and Karen Nelson for Kate Day. Quorum was established.
- Enthusiasts: Joe Anthony, Bob Brown, John Waters, and Aaron Horowitz.

- **New Public Business**

- **Snow removal and placement** came up as a topic. Aaron raised concerns that the trail was dug up Prince Street due to snow removal (less than an inch?) by the TEC Engineering firm. Laura raised concerns about how some abutters dump snow on the trail. Based on this we agreed
 - Karen/Kate will evaluate sending a letter to key abutters reminding them that should not dump/plow snow onto the trail.
 - RATC and others will watch for and report any issues back to the committee.
 - Paul will draft a short “snow etiquette” piece for the website (FAQ and story).

- **Current/Recent Business**

- **Status of Dr. Corrado’s parking markers.** Charley informed the group that this work is complete.
- **Status on party to install gate at Wenham St** crossing Charley informed the group that this work is complete. Matt commented that the gate placement will work well for people entering the trail from the south (enough room to get off the street). Thank you to the team for getting this done.
 - We agreed that reflective tape and another stop sign will be applied, weather permitting. Kate will check on signs. Spring/summer work party.
- Discuss **crossing light education.** Paul has not yet placed the “Push the Button” educational signs... but will.



- Update **exercise equipment** at 3.3 triangle. Little discussion as Kate was not in attendance.
 - Kate/Karen will check with Danvers Rec to see if we can work together on defining and purchased exercise equipment. This would be addressed in spring/summer work party.
- Repairs of the **bridge near Danvers High** have begun. The group felt that most communications are complete and now we need to provide updates as the work progresses.
 - Paul raised concerns about damage to the trail surface and access.
 - Kate/Karen will check with DPW to confirm that the stone dust surface will be replaced, and to see if the temporary access ramp might be left in place as a more passable way to access the trail. Previously access was via a very steep washout.
- We discussed a citizen comment requesting that all **crossing light buttons be wheelchair accessible**. The only button we feel still needs to be addressed is on the south side of the Collins St crossing, as it is about 4 feet off the trail siding. It which needs to be moved closer to the trail
 - Kate will check with DPW on having it moved.
- We did a quick review of **Maintenance List** and it will be updated based on this meeting. 121 items have been completed in 2016.
- **New Business**
 - We discussed ways we might **market the 19 open mile marker spots**. Laura is already working on this. She and Kate will work with Francine to ensure the marker sponsorship list is accurate and up to date.
 - We discussed some ideas for **Eagle Scout projects**, as requested from Bob Arsenault (who was not in attendance). Ideas for further review by Bob and the RTAC include better connection to Rocky Hill, exercise equipment, ADA access at the high school, a bench/green space at Collins St, moving/restoring an old railway shed (Charley will send more info on the shed), and placing historic railway “art” such a switch gears and crossing signs.
 - We discussed a citizen complaint regarding the **Collins St crossing** which has been dug up (with think due to a water line break). The trail was washed out and replaced with rough gravel (not stone dust). It needs repair. We also discussed other places where the surface needs repair, such as at Oak Street.



- Paul will put together a more comprehensive list of spots in need of repair. This will be reviewed by the RTAC, Kate, DPW, etc. to be addressed in the spring.
- We discussed **trash at the Hobart St** lot (best way to balance a citizen's willingness to clean up the area with the fact that she places a bag on the bike rack which is an eyesore). We agreed to let it ride for a while. Then check with the Town for an "official" barrel next spring.
- Charley informed the group that a citizen is willing to **donate a three-wheeled cycle** (3 speed with a basket) for us to use for trash pickup (and minimize use of the John Deere for trash pickup). The group appreciated the offer, but as we discussed the specifics we agreed that it was not very practical for us; none of the committee felt they would use it (just walk the trail instead), and storage, access, and maintenance would create additional work.
 - Charley will follow up with citizen and see if there may be other ways she might support our work.
- Given the earlier discussions on projects and work to be done in 2017, Paul raised the idea of **developing 3 to 5 year plan for the RTAC**. This would help us agree on key activities, and start securing appropriate funds and support. All agreed this was a good idea for a winter-time project.
 - Everyone agreed to send Paul their ideas via email
 - Paul will start drafting something
 - Paul and Kate will work on the best ways to gather citizen and Town input.
- We agreed to **"First Day" (1/1/2017) walk**, which will be led Charley.
 - Paul will work on web posting for review. Also for use with FaceBook and the mobile app.
- We discussed the **January RTAC meeting/party** to be held on January 19th at 6:00 pm at the Danvers Senior Center. Like our July cookout, the meeting will open to the public. Everyone agreed it was a great idea.
 - Kate will secure a one day beer/wine license and inform the RTAC how beer/wine will be managed (i.e. do we bring our own or is it served?)



- Kate will work with Laura on food. We discussed a Pot-Luck approach, but given that attendance is unclear, we might be better off to simply purchase some light dinner snacks.
- The group loved the idea of a “Recognition Montage” ... a series of photos presented in PowerPoint. Kate will work with Mark Jones on this, as Mark already has some great photos and a slide show from last year.
- Kate will send out a “Hold the date” email to the wider DRT mailing list.
- From an RTAC business perspective, we agreed this might be a good chance to gather citizen feedback on longer term DRT needs (structured vision brainstorming). Paul will discuss this with Kate and organize it.
- **Approval of minutes.** Charley moved that we approve the 11/17/2016 minutes, Nancy seconded, and all voted yes in favor of approving.
- Agreed on next meeting date – January 19, 2016.