

Minutes
Rail Trail Advisory Committee Meeting
February 18, 2021
Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Attendees:

RTAC Members: Paul McNulty, Nancy McNulty, Scott Bornstein, Mark Jones, Joe Anthony, Mathew Duggan, Charlie Lincecum, Larry Perreault, and Tom Powers

Others: Georgia Pendergast, Sarah Bornstein, Maureen Bernard, Margaret Baily, Josh Morris, Terry Moody

Executive Order on Remote Participation & Remote Conduct for Open Meetings (Paul and Georgia)

Georgia began meeting by introducing protocols for these types of meetings.

Approval of minutes from January 21, 2021 meeting

Paul initiated comments /questions regarding January 21, 2021 meeting minutes. No questions or comments. Paul motioned, all approved minutes.

New Business

Comments from public and RTAC

Public comments; there were no comments from the public noted.

Yoga on the Trail idea (Terri Moody)

Terri Moody joined our RTAC meeting to introduce her thoughts for Yoga on the Trail. She is an avid trail user and very motivated to give back to the trail. In 2015 she trained to teach yoga and is eager to continue her teaching. She stressed this would be a donation-based class to give back to the trail. Paul noted; good idea, however, a lot of logistics to be discussed. Georgia and Terry to follow up on locations and timing.

Possible bench donation (Paul)

Paul informed RTAC that Ellen Robins of Electric Insurance contacted RTAC on behalf of a group wishing to donate either benches or bike repair station in memory of colleague who was a regular trail user who loved the rail trail. RTAC briefly discussed. Possible location ideas for benches; at the proposed shed location site, or near Western Cycle: Possible location ideas for bike repair station at the junction of trail. RTAC would be pleased to accept either one of these. Paul to follow up with placements and logistics.

Current /Recent Business

Update on northwest extension project and public input session. (Georgia and/ or Aaron)

Georgia confirmed 110 abutter notifications went out to Hobart and Maple Streets. Georgia noted; public input session went very well, thank yous to RTAC participation. Many thank yous to Georgia, Aaron and team for pulling together. Overall, attendees seemed excited to hear what is being put forth.

Feedback went very well, with just minor concerns about how trail users might encourage pet noise. Georgia to follow up with abutters. Georgia also noted phase 1A starting shortly, more information to follow.

Update on funding plans and grant application for surface improvements (Georgia and Paul)

Paul noted, MassTrails grant application submitted 3 to 4 days prior to the February 1 due date. MassTrails has started to review the application and requested some additional maps, which Georgia and the town has addressed.

Paul noted, about a year ago, Joe and Charley did an extensive RT walkthrough highlighting all needed trail elements (signs needed, mile markers, crossing markers, etc). RTAC will work with the town to ensure these items are documented and funded. Georgia to follow up with Steve King for detail planning and engineering concerns in the next six weeks. Georgia and Paul to follow up at next RT meeting.

Friends of Danvers Rail Trail Finance Update

Fundraising (Larry and all)

Larry noted, a donation received from a Cape Cod resident for \$333.00. Donation noted to be specifically for the Swamp walk. Larry noted that reminder mile marker renewals to go out soon.

Joe raised a question about who is responsible for SwampWalk maintenance. Paul commented that the RTAC is not responsible but has agreed to hold SwampWalk funds. Currently a few folks manage maintenance on an ad hoc basis. Paul to discuss longer term maintenance with Georgia.

Set next meeting date – March 18, 2021?

Paul motioned, all approved.