

## Sunrise Trail Coalition

**Date:** January 21, 2014 **Time:** 2:00 – 3:30 PM

**Location:** Conference Call – or HCPC if you want face time.

### Agenda

**Attending:** Jim Fisher, Charlie Harrington, Arthur Tenan, Ian Staub, Bill Ceckler, Ray Archer, Sandy Johnson, Polly Ceckler, Charlie Harrington, Hollis Hills, Andy Gallant, Steve Rees, Dave Wood

- Review of October Minutes – [Available Online](#) – Minutes approved as submitted

### Officer Reports

**President's Report** – Stephen Rees (no report this meeting)

**Treasurer's Report** – Ian Staub

<b>Bank Balance as of 12/31/13:</b>	\$19,454.91	<b>Account Balances:</b>	
		Grant Funds Carry	
1/20/14 deposit (dues):	\$1,450.00	Over:	\$5,643.27
<b>Total:</b>	\$20,904.91	Grant for Trail Survey:	\$5,000.00
		Potter Memorial Fund:	\$455.00
<b>Bills Paid:</b>		Jacobs Memorial Fund:	\$255.05
Clarke's Toilets (Oct.-Dec.):	\$180.00		
Jordan Gardens (Jacobs Mem):	\$249.99	<b>General Fund Balance:</b>	\$9,551.59
Ellsworth Area C of C:	\$145.00	Dues paid via Paypal	\$109.85
<b>Total:</b>	\$574.99	<b>Total</b>	\$9,661.44

- Memberships
  - Collected 44 checks for membership totaling \$1,450
  - Big contributions – Cotton Farms - \$100
  - Dave and Maggie - \$100
  - Talbott House - \$50.00
  - North Street Café - \$100
  - Window Panes - \$100
- Fund Raising
  - Friend and Friend Charity Ride - \$1,985.00

Discussion of Clarkes Privy Contract for Washington Junction

- Washington Junction privy being maintained– motion to keep it there going forward passed unanimously

## **Manager's Report – Charlie Corliss**

- Charlie noted that the trail was doing well when there was a good snow cover until the rain and ice storm
  - After the storms the trail was exposed again
  - One minor washout at Sacrap Road – trail will need some surface improvements
  - There is barely enough snow to use the rail now, but more snow is predicted tonight
  - Working on renewing contracts for grading, mowing, etc for next summer
    1. Looks like renewing will work for next year
    2. Waiting to see if the contractors want to renew
  - Plan- Grading
    1. Ayers Junction – Route 191
    2. Cherryfield – Washington Junction
      1. May not do the last few miles with crushed concrete
      2. Recommend doing some test grading a short section of the crushed concrete to see what happens.

## **Committee Reports and Updates**

### Membership Update – Carol Cuddy, Ian Staub and Maggie Warren

- We have received about 50 memberships
  - Paypal –generated 6 renewals
- Should we promote membership again for this calendar year?
  - Targeted letter to members to renew
  - Post member names and affiliations on the website
    1. Or perhaps avoid privacy issues and post names of the organizations
- What else are we doing to build membership
  - Social Media – Sunrise Trail Website, Facebook
- Affinity Marketing
  - Four clubs are maintaining the trail
    1. Charlie Corliss - Send a letter to the clubs
    2. We can attend their meetings to encourage membership
      1. Charlie Harrington – would meet with a club or two
    3. Acadia ATV – second Wednesday of the month in the Trenton Fire Station – check their website
    4. Cherryfield – First Monday of the month
    5. Franklin – First Monday of the month – Dean Young's
  - Discussion: North Street Café Bronze Membership – Jim will need a logo or other graphic to add to the Sunrise Trail Website. We need to remove old sponsors logos that are no longer contributing.

- Ian read two letters from riders
  - Some positive remarks – but concerns about behavior of ATV's and dirt bike riders
  - Discussion about how to reduce conflicts among users
  - Charlie Corliss
    1. These aren't very common incidents
    2. We could make some additional signs about right of way and share the trail
    3. Unless they break laws, we cannot punish users
  - Steve – two problems
    1. ROW – not a factual issue
    2. Speed – is there a way to regulate speed?
  - Dave Wood - There are speed limit signs in Machias
    1. Enforcement is not easy along the trail
    2. Wardens are empowered to do more
  - Bill Ceckler – we have had some regulations about passing speeds
    1. Can we recommend a safe passing speeds
  - Charlie Harrington
    1. recommends that cyclists move off the trail and wave to ATVs that pass
    2. The snowmobiles are a bit more difficult – they hop around on the trail when they are going fast
  - Arthur Tenan – suggest having the wardens out during the opening weekends. Make people more aware that there is supervisions
    1. Charlie Corliss – there was a presence in Columbia all day
    2. Pulled over a number of riders, but only cited a few for not being registered
  - **Actions:**
    1. Pursue share the trail signs
    2. Invite a warden to the next SCT Meeting
  
- Trail Surface Update – Ian Staub
  - Hope to organize a meeting with Scott Ramsay
    1. Discuss trail surface
    2. Mile Marker Signs – Note that Dan Stewart subsequently spoke with Scott Ramsay and they have agreed to using these signs provided the installation does not require time out of Charlie Corliss's schedule. Volunteer installation is recommended.
  - Suggested participants: Ian, Bill, Steve, Dan, Scott
  
- Sally Jacobs Memorial Update – Sandy Johnson
  - Received what the family want on the plaque
  - The footing and landscaping were installed in November
  - Carol is communicating with Freshwater Stone
  - Ian paid the balance for the landscaping
    1. Steve
      1. Proposal was attached with invoice for additional work

## 2. Suggest circulating the proposal to the board

- Potter Memorial Update – Ian Staub and Carol Cuddy
  - Installation at the same time as the Sally Jacobs memorial
  - Charlie – looking at two locations near Cards Stream Crossing
    1. Cards Stream is a nice location
  - Jordan Gardens – has not been responsive – we need a foundation for the bench
- Cherryfield RR Station update – Crystal Hitchings

No report

### Funding Opportunities

- [Land For Maine's Future Request for Proposals](#) – Jim Fisher
  - Could this funding help us to establish parking or camping spaces on the trails
  - Two sites along the trail
    1. Route 183 Tunk Lake Road – property tied up in some land swaps with Federal Agencies
    2. Land between Cherryfield and Harrington in a small – beyond the power line
      1. Easier to develop
      2. What support would be needed?
  - Scott Ramsay – has indicated that he does not want the trail manager to be cleaning privies or maintaining camp sites. We would need to have a maintenance agreement.
- [People for Bikes](#) – Jim Fisher will email information about these grants to the board.0
- [First Wind](#) – Benefits Payments – Jim Fisher and/or Charlie Baldwin
  - Jim described the nature of the benefits payment provision in Maine law
  - The board expressed interest in pursuing this opportunity
  - Charlie Baldwin was not able to join our meeting.
  - Action: Jim will set up a meeting with Charlie Baldwin as soon as possible
- User Survey Funds
  - We discussed ways to kick start the economic benefits study funded last year
  - Rails to Trails – Karl Knoch has procured matching funds that will cover his participation in the study
  - Two elements to data collection
    1. Seasonal user counts
    2. Interview/Survey data on types of use, spending patterns and assessment of experience
  - Implementation
    1. Ian indicated that he has contacts in market research that might be hired to work on this

2. A board member suggested we contact Karen Beeftink – 255-1249  
[karen.beeftink@maine.edu](mailto:karen.beeftink@maine.edu) – Rec. Management at UMaine Machias
  3. Jim asked the board to approve purchase of a game camera for user counts
    1. Sandy moves that we purchase a camera
    2. Arthur Tenan suggested a Better quality - Moultrie - \$249+ 2 memory cards and batteries
  4. Location – varies over time, but could include Cherryfield, Washington Junction, Machias, Ayers Junction.
- Board approves purchase of a game camera with input from Arthur Tenan

#### Visitor Information

- [Updated Bureau of Parks and Lands Maps](#)
- Maine's Best Regional Guide 2014 Edition
- [MyGeoReader](#) – Map App

#### Machias Story Walk

- 25 posts were installed last fall
- A story was posted
- The posts were very close to the trail and might be hit by snow groomers
- Some stories pages were blown off the

#### Other Business – please send in your suggestions

- Discussion: Request to permit fat-tire bicycles on the snow-covered trail – Jim Fisher
  - Board votes that we should allow them
  - Jim will note this on the website – not a big promotion
- Healthy Communities group would like a participant in their health fair - we were not able to find a volunteer to do this.
  
- Destination Cherryfield Folk Festival
  - First Full weekend in October
  - May coordinate this with the meeting

**Next meeting – HCPC March 11, 2014 2:00 – 4:00 PM**