

Sunrise Trail Coalition Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday March 11, 2014

Time: 2:00 – 3:30 PM

Location: Conference Call and HCPC

Minutes

Attending: Bill Ceckler, Ian Staub, Charlie Corliss, Polly Ceckler, Jim Fisher, Charlie Harrington, Sandy Johnson, Carol Cuddy, Andy Gallant, and Haze Martin (public)

Phone: Dave Wood

- Review of January 21 Minutes – [Available Online](#)
- Corrections:
- Sandy Johnson is not Sandy Phoenix,
 - One minor washout at Sacrap Road

Officer Reports

- President’s Report – Stephen Rees
- **STC Treasurers Report as of 3/11/2014 – Ian Staub**

Bank Balance: \$20,360.91	Account Balances:
3/11/14 deposit: 361.98	Grant Funds Carry Over: \$5,643.27
Paypal on 3/5/14: 25.00	Grant for Trail Survey: 5,000.00
Total: 20,747.89	Potter Memorial Fund: 455.00
Bills to be Paid:	Jacobs Memorial Fund: 255.05
Clarke’s Portable Toilets: \$65.00	General Fund Balance: 9,394.57
Bangor Letter Shop: 46.91	
Sandy Johnson: 33.00	
Total: 144.91	

- Moved, seconded – passed unanimously
- Balance \$5,600 carry-over

Manager’s Report – Charlie Corliss

- Trail from Hancock to Jonesboro was groomed last Thursday, but the surface is thin
 - Schoodic Bog is particularly soft
 - Additional snow is predicted
 - Season may end soon – need to post to keep four-wheelers off
 - Will post them for opening of May 15, but it should open sooner
- Machias to East Machias is bare now
- East Machias to Pembroke is in good condition still
- Places with a lot of sun exposure melted sooner
- All three contracts are up for renewal

- RF Jordan's is not renewing – they want more than \$350/mile
- Jim Robinson – mowing wants to renew
- Whitten's – wants to renew
- Planned work
 - General maintenance – eastern end of trail
 - Plan to grade both ends
 - Washington Junction to Mile 5
 - Trial grading crushed concrete
 - Mileage signs
 - Scott agreed to us posting them
 - He also suggested that he could make others
 - We will put together volunteers to post them in
 - Trail surface for the summer
 - May be smoother after grading and rolling
 - Last time the rolling and grading didn't hold up as long
 - Generally going to be bumpy
 - Need to get rid of the puddles and washouts
 - Need to change website for permission forms to go to Lana at MaineDACF

Motion to accept the managers report - Passed

Committee Reports and Updates

Membership Update – Carol Cuddy, Ian Staub and Maggie Warren

- Carol has been updating the membership list
 - 204 members
 - 3 new members
 - Approximately 30 business members
 - Approximately 50 members
- Dave noted that Maggie is footing the cost of the mailing that she did in November
 - \$47 stamps
 - Paper
- When should we send a reminder?
 - ASAP
 - Format:
 - EMAIL easy
 - Mail
 - Charlie Harrington – Volunteered to do the email
 - Jim – print letter and forms
 - Include online and print options
- Marketing to clubs
 - Ian recommends that we encourage more ATV'rs to pay
 - Presentation – 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Trenton Fire Station 7:00 PM
- East Machias Ridge Riders

- Snowmobile Club – First Monday of the month (through April)
- ATV Club – First Wednesday of the month starting in April

- Ian Staub
 - Thank you from Phyllis Young
 - Downeast Professional Network - not interested
 - Machias Chamber Dinner – not interested
 - Washington County Children’s Chorus – not interested

Trail Surface Update – Ian Staub

- Week of April 28 Ian, Bill and Steve plan to meet with Scott either in Augusta or on the trail – because the trail is not adequate for bicycles
- Dave would like to be involved in that meeting
 - This one is part of the East Coast Greenway - of 16 national millennium trails in the country
 - Needs more attention

Sally Jacobs Memorial Update – Sandy Johnson and Carol Cuddy

- Carol noted – we are all set with the benches and plaques
 - Need to get the footings installed
 - Then benches can go on
- Scheduling and Event
 - Sometime between August 13-16
 - The Machias Blueberry Festival is that weekend
- Ian called Jordan Gardens – got some information, but contact wasn’t there
- Estimate on additional cost for slabs
 - \$309 – Machias 6”
 - \$468 – Potter memorial
 - Moved that the board approve up \$1,000 for the slabs
- Sally’s Plaque for the Kiosk
 - Daughter’s have suggested wording for the plaque
 - STC will suggest editing
 - Memorial Committee will try to make this short

Potter Memorial Update – Ian Staub and Carol Cuddy

- Site selection -

Cherryfield RR Station update – Crystal Hitchings

- Tabled due to lack of new information
- Crystal subsequently sent the following note:

I don't have a report for the Cherryfield Train Depot project yet, but it is still an active conversation. I will be meeting with Kathy Upton on Thursday to begin discussing preliminary project intentions and set a general plan. I have spoken with Larry Johannesman about the project, and he will help us

however he is able to. Additionally, I have spoken with MDOT about historical transportation preservation funds, and we may go in that direction at some point, although there are probably other grants and fundraising possibilities that will be a better fit and take less time. I am thinking some local fundraising events and local volunteer work crews will be able to tackle the rehabilitation of the structure itself. Later, DOT and MOT will probably be more interested in working with us on turning the building into a visitor information center and train museum. Please let the group know that the project is just getting its legs underneath it and there will be more information once we gather together and form a project group. Kathy and I will get the ball rolling after our meeting Thursday.

Funding Opportunities

- [First Wind](#) – Benefits Payments – Jim Fisher and/or Charlie Baldwin
 - This discussion was mostly tabled as Jim did not hear back from Charlie Baldwin.
 - Deadline for benefits payments applications has passed for this year.
- Bangor Hydro Funds – connected with the power lines
 - Charlie Corliss noted that funds are available
 - We will need to follow up with BHE to find out what they can fund.
- Blue Hill – Next Generation Fund (can't find this on the internet)
 - Infrastructure is eligible
 - Deadline for Letters of Intent was March 1 – so we missed this year
- Healthy Acadia – Community Transformation Grant
 - Jim noted that Healthy Acadia is looking for some quick-turnaround projects that are eligible for Community Transformation Grant funding.
 - Ideas include bicycle parking racks, wayfinding signage, bus-stop signs and schedules,
- Others?

Visitor Information

- Maine's Best Regional Guide 2014 Edition
- Maine Office of Tourism / Maine Tourism Association
- Destination Cherryfield – Cherryfield Destination Day October 3-5
 - Friend and Friend is planning a trail ride on October 5
 - Seeking musicians

Privies

- Town of Cherryfield has a porta-potty behind the Town Office
 - Charlie Corliss suggests that we split the cost with the town and move the unit to the parking lot behind Cherryfield Foods
 - Ian – Will call Mona West in the Cherryfield to discuss this idea
- Washington Junction – Jim needs to try again with the Scenic Rail Heritage Trust
 - We have \$5,600 in the fund
 - Need to be sure we can use it for a privy
 - Jim will investigate
- Ayers Junction – work with ATV club

Parking at Franklin

- Blueberry factory parking area will not be available
- Ian contacted the Franklin Vets Club on Cards Crossing
 - Steve Walton does not have a problem
 - Request that we make signs indicating parking area and “park at your own risk”
 - Parking would be located in the far corner near the ball field

Davis Foundation

- Foundation has offered
- Jim will contact Karen Biftink, UMaine Machias Karen.Biftink@maine.edu 255-1249
 - See if students are available to assist with intercept surveys
- Ian also offered services from a Market Research firm

Other Business – please send in your suggestions

- **Supreme Court Decision** [Family Trust Wins Supreme Court Fight Against Bike Trail](#)
 1. May not apply to DEST as this was about federal lands.
 2. Will wait and see whether D. H. or other land owners are launching suits.
- **Haze Martin** – purchased 73 acres land across from the entrance
 1. Hoping to establish an ATV rental facility
 2. www.DowneastATV.com
 3. Contacted MaineDOT and Town of Hancock
 4. Anticipating 500 rentals per year
- Haze – also offered to work on installation of mile marker signs for the trail

Next Meeting April 22, 2014 2:00 PM HCPC and Conference call