

Sunrise Trail
4/25/2007
Minutes

Attending: Sally Jacobs, Bill Ceckler, Jim Fisher, Julie Isbill, Sandy Johnson, Charlie Corliss, Mary Bryant, Maggie Warren, Harold Stoddard, Kelcy Yeaton, Gary Dowling, David Rodrigues, John Ashmore, Pam Ashmore

Meeting brought to order at 10:10 a.m. in Cherryfield. Next meeting on May 23rd will start at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda

Minutes – Accepted

Expenditure of \$99 for newsletter reprint approved

Approval to get a debit card to be used by Sally and Eleody.

Board voted to give a donation for the Cherryfield Academy renovation project, since we use the building for our meetings. The Executive Committee will decide on an amount.

MCF STAR Grant for feasibility study

- MCF awarded \$2,000 (of \$5,000 requested)
- Looking for matching funds from
 - Heritage Rail
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - City of Ellsworth
 - MaineDOT
- MaineDOT is also reevaluating how much they can contribute to the study

Update from DOC

- Charlie Corliss hired to be the trail manager
- Opening office in the Fickett Building (Across from EBS in Cherryfield)
- David Rodrigues will supervise the program
- Charlie is assessing the corridor now
- Sent out an RFQ to create the bid package for the project
 - a. Interviewed three firms that bid on the package
 - b. Working on a contract with Plymouth Engineering
 - c. Contract has been delayed – MaineDOT has to split the contract.
 - i. Part of the funds need to go through rail.
 - ii. MaineDOT has not sent the two new contracts.
 - d. Contract will specify 30 days for engineering project.
- Another discussion is underway to determine whether the rail salvage can be earmarked to trail improvements.
- Charlie notes

- a. that Cherryfield to Columbia Falls is in pretty good shape
- b. has been meeting with various rider groups
- o DOC has developed a list of contractors interested in working on the rail to trail conversion. Others who are interested should get their name on the list for salvage work should contact Charlie Corliss.
- o Guilford in Aroostook can burn the ties – need to be paid \$30 per ton. They do not provide transportation.

Box Car Project

Julie reports good progress Review of Machias Box Car Project

- o May 14 – 18, four inmates and a supervisor from Downeast Correctional Facility to do some of the work
- o Arranged food and beverage for workers--some donated. Approved expenditure of \$125

Bill Cherry, Town of Machias and Cole Transportation moved the box car about 80 feet to the work site.

Local sign painter – Marilyn Dowling, and Terri Woodruff of Down East Community Health Corps will work on stencils for the box car

Local car wash will steam wash the box car – seeking a contribution (approved \$100)

Received initial \$4,000 grant for boxcar– through Rails to Trails Conservancy (National Park Service/Challenge Cost Share funding)

Received an additional \$4,500 grant – through Rails to Trails Conservancy (National Park Service/Challenge Cost Share funding)

Health ways group has volunteered to organize a workday on Friday June 15th

Box Car Parking Lot and Trail Head

Machias corrected their parcel maps

- o MaineDOT owns rail ROW
- o Machias owns box car and land under the station
- o Gardiner Bank owns much of the surrounding land
- o Interest in purchase of land

Washington County Development Authority – is not supportive as they want to protect rails.

Sam Coplon is preparing a downtown plan,

Sally will inquire whether the town would pay Coplon Associates to prepare a preliminary sketch for a facility.

Banners Logo

MaineDOT staff prepared three logos

The committee discussed ways to configure the banner

One large logo (8'x5')

One smaller one with Sunrise Trail Coalition

Narraguagus Printing will be contracted to do the work.

Ordering Two National Trails Day Banners

Map Committee

Meeting on a Tuesday in May. Charlie met with her class.

Computer Purchase

Jim showed off new computer, projector, etc.
System will reside in Charlie Corliss's office.

Calais Connection – No report

Washington County Development Authority – Concerned about loss of rail

Conference Committee Plans

A committee has been formed to organize a public workshop in September for the trail – see handout

National Trails Day Planning

Action Items

Charlie: hang banner on the box car; get parade permit from Station to Whitney's Toolshed.

Jim: Need to post event announcement on the BCM bikemaine.org and nationaltrailsday.org websites. Forward Press release. Check with Eleody for emailing the invitation.

Sally: Sally and Sandy will send out invitation,

10:00 AM Sunrise Trail Event at Box Car

10:45 Bike/Ped Parade to Whitney's Tool Shed

11:15 Whitney's Tool Shed

12:30 Bike and Walk

Invitations

Email full list

Mail letters or post cards to Legislators,

Announcements

Long Range Transportation forum and web-survey

State Trails Conference – Lewiston September 21-22

State Land Trust Conference – Brunswick, May 5th

ATV Club looking into building new clubhouse between Hancock and Franklin

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jim Fisher/Maggie Warren