

Sunrise Trail Coalition
10/12/2011
Minutes

Attending: Jim Fisher, Sally Jacobs, Dave Wood, Stephen Reese, Charlie Corliss, Polly Ceckler, Jacob VandeSande, Bill Cherry, Bill Ceckler, Sandy Johnson, Jay Johnson, Scott Ramsey

September Minutes: Approved without Revision

Treasurer's report: Tabled

Plans for Annual Meeting: December 6, 2011

Discussion of time:

- Afternoon vs. evening
 - Are working people unable to attend during the day?
 - Sally moves that we continue at 4:00 PM - Approved
- Stephen Reese - Should we consider using a proxy for voting?
 - We will include a proxy statement with the Constant Contact Announcement
 - Jim will work with on this

Managers Report

- Hand repairing the little ripples along the trail where erosion might start
- Replacing boards on the bridges that are popping up
- Flipping the boards over and nailing them back down
- Other repairs have been completed
- Trying different ways of attaching the boards
- Machias HS is continuing their connection from the School to the Trail
- Possibility of a heated restroom
 - Archibald's is tearing down a structure, but suggested that we might build a restroom
 - Owner might be willing to maintain the facility if we can build it
 - Jim - Might be difficult to use public funds to build a private facility
 - Currently Archibald's has a porta potty that is seeing heavier use
 - Charlie will continue discussing the idea
- Ayers Junction to Perry Extension
 - Continuing to clear the old right of way
 - STC discussed how to help make this extension bicycle accessible
 - Bill – discussed why this is important for the trail
 - Scott Ramsey – funding needs to be focused on snowmobile and ATV
 - Cost \$300 - \$400 thousand to rebuild the full route to bicycle standards
 - Ayers Junction to Ridge Road is perfect
 - Ridge Road onwards has some heavy brush

- Part that was brushed looks promising
 - Suggest letting the club move ahead
 - Charlie – there is gravel not too far from the project that might work (Jim Robinson)
 - Temporarily – funding some of the work, but need to arrange funding in November or wait until spring.
 - Focus now is to get to snowmobile quality
- **Maintenance**
 - Bangor Hydroelectric Funds - Funds to offset impacts on the trail from BHE work
 - Fixing trail damage from heavy vehicles
 - Regular trail maintenance
 - Bill
 - Franklin to General Cobb Road in East Franklin – trail has become rough with large rocks
 - Franklin west to Hancock
 - Jacob
 - regular dragging with a cutter bar would be a better approach for maintenance
 - the Cherryfield stretch is not holding up as well
 - the gravel was not as good for long-term maintenance
 - the rutting is primarily caused by ATVs
 - Binder
 - Ellsworth portion was built with crushed cement and has held up much better
 - Scott
 - Maintenance is going to cost more that we are raising
 - The bike community is going to have to commit more funds for maintenance
 - Should BP&L purchase a tractor, side mount bush hog, roller and York rake with their funds or continue to pay contractors?
 - Bill – noted that Sheriff Bill Clark – thought that Hancock County might have a tractor that we could use or they might provide storage.
 - **Jim – Contact Hancock County Road Commissioner** about this.
 - Dave Wood – might be possible to approach towns about being more active partners.
 - Can BHE funds be used to purchase the Tractor? This is worth considering
 - Locations – Hancock, Sullivan and Donnell-Tunk Public Reserve Lands
 - Can we take care of projects on this end with BHE funds and put more of the BP&L funds toward Washington County
- **BP&L Funds**
 - Stephen – what remains of this grant?
 - BP&L used \$5,000 to work on the brochure
 - BP&L approved \$15,000 for work on the eastern extension
 - BP&L approved another \$10,000 for gravel for this section
 - State Cap-Di Cap / 13% charge for overhead costs (eg. accounting)

- About \$8,000 - \$9,000 remain in the funds
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- BHE
 - BHE Committed \$120,000
 - Primitive Camping sites
 - Route 183 Trailhead
 - Road crossing property has been leveled
 - Property purchased near Route 183 by BHE
 - Multiuse Trail up Fiery Mountain

Ellsworth Trail Head

- Sally met in Augusta with Kevin, Kevin and Dan in Augusta
 - Reviewed the modified brochure – and made several corrections
 - They plan to print about 5,000 copies
- Dan and Sally completed work on a budget proposal for preliminary engineering for Washington Junction to High Street
- Jim – noted that the Ellsworth Trail will open in the next few weeks
- STAR Center study needs to be completed

Fall Foliage Ride

- November 22nd
- Several people from the coalition are volunteering
- Jocelyn working with HCPC on a brochure for the trail
- Back side might be left blank and businesses could download and print their information on the back side

Bangor Hydro Work

- Currently in Unionville
- Appears to be some additional work west of Route 200

Kiosks

- Charlie – soon will be working on the Washington Junction Kiosk
- Stephen Reese – not getting any interest for commercial signage along the trail
- Should we be looking at this as we go further east?
- Some illegal signs have gone up – need to discourage this

Membership

- Membership tracking
 - Ian has been going through old records to clarify membership
 - Dave – need to meet with Ian to work on membership

- Stephen – need to promote business membership
 - Working on categories of business membership
 - Perks
 - Listing on the website
 - Trail signs
- Scott
 - Reiterated that the bike community needs to contribute more to the trail
 - Bike people raise concerns about safety, but aren't doing anything to fix the problems
 - Managing for bicycles is more expensive
 - Legally BP&L is not supposed to make improvements for bicycles

National Recognition

- Sally Jacobs has been given national recognition as a Rail to Trail advocate
- She was flown to DC and given an award by Ray Sec. Ray Lahood
- Cash award of \$1,000 – will be passed through to the Sunrise Trail
- Sally showed her trophy

Decals – CharlieCorliss

- We don't have decals for the trail
- We can probably purchase decals for about \$1.00 each in lots of 100
- Charlie can pursue this

DART

- Jim – noted that DART would like to have a STC member on the DART Board
- We need to find out what the annual membership fee is before committing to membership
- Nobody volunteered to be on the board at this time, but we will explore it.