

Down East Sunrise Trail
12/04/06
Minutes

Attending: Sally Jacobs, Jim Fisher, Sandy Johnson, Eleody Libby, Charlie Corliss, Gary Edwards, Harold Clossey, Jeremy Gabrielson, Julie Isbill, Jacob van de Sande, Bill Ceckler, Jef Fitzgerald, Stephanie Clement, Bill Cherry, Mike Murphy

In absentia - Dan Stewart, David Rodrigues

Opening Remarks – History of the Down East Sunrise Trail: Sally Jacobs

Handouts

- Maps, Draft Plans, etc. associated with the Down East Sunrise Trail

Working in coordination with FDR Trail that includes Campobello, Eastport, Ice Age Trail Map, Downeast Feasibility Study - still on MaineDOT web site

- Rail with trail concept proved costly and infeasible in many locations.
- Rail banking process adopted
- Tracks remain north of Ellsworth and north of Ayers Junction
- No clear alternative trails from Ayers Junction to Calais, nor Ellsworth to Bangor.

MaineDOT Project Manager - Andy McDonald

MaineDOC Project Manager - TBA

- Position posting has closed - waiting for decisions
- DOC will manage the trail in a cooperative agreement with MaineDOC
- MaineDOT will help to fund the MaineDOC position and funding to maintain the trail

Cost of Construction

- average cost is \$30,000 per mile
- \$1.2 million for the rail with trail portion
- feasibility study - seeking \$30,000 to check feasibility of Ellsworth intermodal center
- Ray Koppel and George Jackson (MaineDOT)
 - salvage value appears to be pretty good - encouraging starting the project sooner
 - Dan is requesting funding for upgrades in the Transportation Bond

Stephanie - What is the Bonding process?

- MaineDOT Review
- Gubernatorial Review
- Legislative Review
- Voters
- Jim - prioritization process for 20 year plan in place. MaineDOT is looking statewide. There will be a lot of interdepartmental scrambling.
- Jeremy - FDR Trail has encouraged low-cost business memberships. Businesses display a decal showing the trail logo.

Working with Business community

- getting lists of members
- contacting Executive Directors
- Eggs and Issues

Naming the trail

- Sunrise Trail
- Downeast Sunrise Trail
- Down East Sunrise Trail
- DownEast Sunrise Trail

Ally called a number of representatives and received a few other ideas:

Other Opinions of Legislators

- Sunrise Down East Trail
- Sunrise Rail Trail
- Sunrise Trail - Short

After lengthy discussion, the group followed the advice of Dan Stewart to stay with the name chosen some time back > **Down East Sunrise Trail.**

Adoption of the Minutes

- Moved and approved as revised

Treasurer's Report

- Balance now stands at about \$2,000
- Membership form - we should encourage people joining as member of clubs to include the club name on their form
- Jim will revise the form online - add Club/Affiliation
- Add prompt for Club
- Members who renew in October are good for the following calendar year.

Selecting meeting dates

- Secretary - can attend Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- Katherine Cassidy - PR Director for UMM - can come afternoons
- We will plan to meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month.
 - Jan 24
 - Feb 28
 - Mar 28
 - May 23
 - Jun 27

Newsletter

- Debating different costs for newsletters
- Marla looking at printing options
- Color or Black and White - depends on Colors

- Name options
 - Trail Tracks
 - Down East Sunrise Trail News - preferred
- Newsletter will be posted on the website too.
- Jim - worked on membership system - will send it to the secretary
- We will seek one sponsor per newsletter - David Whitney will be the first sponsor

Development

- Harold Clossey offered to Sally to write some ideas for
- Bikes Belong
- MDI Proposal - not funded
- PCs for Maine -
- Heritage Trails
- Box car project

Logo

How do we go about getting a logo

MaineDOT Graphics department might be able to help

Logo contests - not the way to go

- Graphics designers?
- Keep it simple
- Richard Merrill - Blue Hill did the logo for Downeast Salmon Federation.
- John Daigle - Prof. Univ. of Maine Recreation Program
- Charlie Corliss - May have funds for logo(?)

Rail Trail Meeting - STAR

- Tracy Perez - Need to do a feasibility study
- Need matching funds
- Margaret (Mickie) Sumpter and Rail people each through they could come up with \$5,000 for the study
- Bill met with people at MCF and has forms for a proposal. Form needs to be submitted by January 16th. Bill and Sally will work on the proposal.

High Rail Ride

Sally and Bill rode with Tom Testa and others

Wetlands are a challenge

Bangor Hydro Trail

Jim described the transmission line opportunity

Workplan

Julie prepared a draft workplan

Several steps are in process

Jim working on Bike Pedestrian Plan for Ellsworth

- Bridge abutments - possible bike- pedal bridge
- Newland Nursery interest in trails

Next Meetings:

Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands meeting, Cherryfield Legion Hall, December 12th 6:00 PM

Sunrise Trail Coalition: January 24th at 1:00 PM at the Cherryfield Academy

Agenda

Trails Committee

Trail Head Locations

Community Outreach Plans

Newsletter

More...