

Sunrise Trail Coalition Annual Meeting

Franklin Town Office

12/6/2011

Minutes

Attending: Bill Ceckler, Phyllis Young, Steve Rees, Jef Fitzgerald, Charlie Corliss, Sally Jacobs, Maggie Warren, Dave Wood, Jay Johnson, Sandy Johnson, Jim Fisher, Ian Staub, Steve Sloan, Sally Jacobs, Bill Cherry, John Gabarra (Bangor Hydro property manager)

Introductions

Approval of 2010 Annual Meeting Minutes

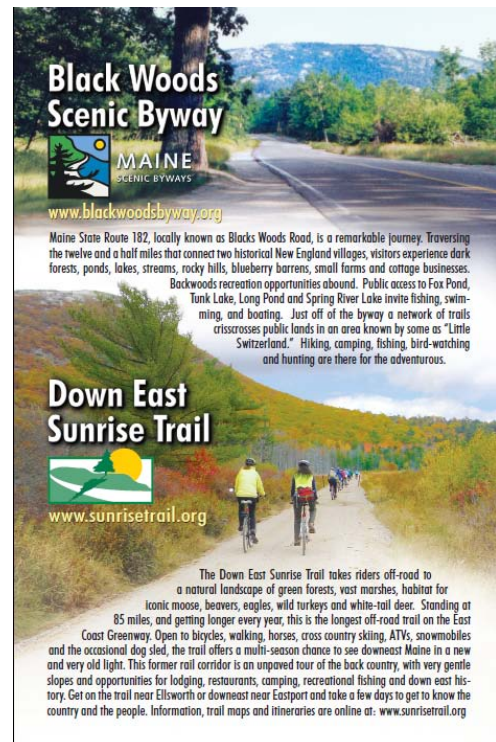
- Sally Moves, approved without revision

Approval of October 2011 Meeting Minutes

- Steve moves, approved without revisions

Treasurers Report – Ian Staub (handout)

- Balances
 - Checking \$11,586.30
 - Old Grant Balance \$6,681.21
 - Rails to Trails: \$1,000.00
 - General Fund: \$3,905.09
- Balance has declined about -\$1,728.55
- We should be more aggressive in soliciting membership dues
- Some funds were spent on picnic tables
- Steve Rees - The RTP Grant should be reflected in some way
 - \$30,000 was spent
 - We should contact Scott Ramsay to get an accounting of the use of the funds
 - Some uses were the trail brochure and extending the trail in Washington County
- Sally moves approval – approved unanimously



Election of officers

- 17 proxy votes received – almost all supporting the slate.
- Jim: move for unanimous approval of the slate – passed without dissent
- Motion for Steve Salisbury as a new board member
 - Bill moves, Jim seconds
 - Discussion – is this Steve Salisbury the land surveyor? No, this one works for Friend and Friend
 - Approved without dissent
 - Jim will need to get Steve's physical address

- Phyllis Young is going to attend a few meetings representing the Ellsworth Chamber of Commerce and will consider
- Jim showed the recent Ellsworth Chamber addition to their regional guide →

Membership Term

Bill introduced the idea of standardizing membership to the calendar year.

Sally moves calendar year. Approved unanimously

Change number of Board of Directors

- Suggest reducing size from 21 to 15
- Steve moves and Sandy seconds
- Discussion
 - A smaller number reduces difficulty finding active members
 - Reduces quorum requirement
- Approved unanimously

President's Report

- 2011 was a good year
- Winter
 - Lots of snow
 - Seth Levy wrote a very nice article about
- Spring
 - Portland Press article
- June
 - Second annual tour and cookout
 - MAP Project of the Year Award
 - Bangor Hydro Electric initiated construction of the new transmission line
- August
 - Huntington's Disease Ride
- September
 - Downeast Health Services
- October
 - BP&L Fall Foliage
 - Sally Jacobs was awarded a national advocates award
 - Sally Jacobs donated the \$1,000 award to the Sunrise Trail Coalition
- November
 - Ellsworth Trail Opens
 -
- **Funding**
 - Misha Mytar – prepared a \$45,000 grant for the trail
 - Funding used for brochure, trail extension
 - Placed 16 picnic tables along the trail
 - Maintained porta-potties
 - Dan Stewart identified funds for engineering and construction of the Ellsworth extension
 - MaineDOT has assigned Catherine Small as the project manager

- Construction possible in 2013
- Stepping Down
 - Steve Rees- will assume the reigns as President of the Board
 - Thanks to Charlie Corliss, Jim Fisher, Sally Jacobs, Jef Fitzgerald
- Election of Officers
 - President: Steve Rees
 - Vice President:
 - Treasurer: Ian Stab
 - Secretary:
 - At large: Bill Ceckler, Sally Jacobs
- Move: That the board select a secretary and vice president.
 - Passed unanimously

Trail Manager's Report

- Winter Maintenance
 - Clubs have requested \$87,000 for trail maintenance
 - 70% will be granted by the states
 - 30% will be provided as match by the clubs
 - Narraguagus Club will groom 45 miles, picking up the section that the Lamoine Club elected not to do
 - This is a 6 hour trip one way
 - They will use two drivers
 - Ian asked whether the Franklin Club can do this in the future – can if they get equipment
- Beaver damage was difficult this fall
 - Trappers are helping to reduce the population
- Complaint about vehicle on the trail
 - Milbridge police were patrolling with their car
 - They have stopped this
- Picnic tables and kiosks
 - No evidence of vandalism or theft
 - The road sign is now on the roof of the new kiosk
 - Need a new road sign
 - Entrance road at Washington Junction needs additional gravel and scraping
- New kiosks at Ayers Junction and Washington Junction
- Trail to Perry
 - Cleared.
 - Has new gravel and culverts
 - Trail is passable on an ATV
 - New sign posts have been installed
- Ellsworth extension
 - Project manager assigned
- Bangor Hydro Project
 - Work to restore construction sites going well
 - Discussed trail conditions-
 - Tunk Lake Road to Unionville – to be repaired by BHE
 - Franklin to Tunk Lake Road – BP&L

- Too late in the season to do all the work now – will wait until spring
- Steve Sloan – added that construction is now finishing up from East Side Road to Unionville Road – matt removal and clean-up
 - Big trucks are not using the trail
- General Cobb to Card Mill remains to be built
 - Polls are being set
 - Working as long as weather conditions permit
- Trail saturation can reduce weight tolerance
- Questions:
 - Will utility work improve the existing surface. Some large rocks make it difficult to ride a bicycle.
 - Not adding any new material, so bumpiness may continue to be a problem
 - Boards are popping out on some bridges
 - Charlie has been fixing them as possible
- Have received an informal request to use a short portion of the trail for timber harvesting
 - Station Road - Jonesboro
 - Waiting for a written request
 - Need to avoid plowing the snow
 - Sally – could we charge a fee?

New Business

- STAR Center
 - Jim noted that the STAR Center (still not complete) may lead to a TIGER IV intermodal transportation grant proposal
 - Jef- will be important to finish the feasibility assessment first
 - Steve - will need to organize support for this concept
 - Congressional delegation
 - Local leadership
- Washington Junction Siding – Bill
 - Tracks are being removed?
 - Will this create space for a trail?
- Other trail extensions
 - Schoodic to Schoodic
 - Calais trail
 - Sally – need to speak with the Moosehorn Manager to explore a trail along the tracks.
 - Need to meet with Scott Ramsay
- Signage
 - Dan Stewart – has funds for signs
 - High Street – directing people to the trail
 - Charlie
 - Might add reflective milepost signs – Green Reflective MP ##
 - Some of the had drawn signs are fading
- Newsletter
 - When
 - Winter, Spring or Summer
 -

- Why
 - New Officers
 - Events
- How
 - Constant Contact -
 - Facebook
 - Email
 - Print
- Other Social Media
 - iPhone Application – “North Face”
 - Another option for marketing the Sunrise Trail
 - Jim will look into listing us on this one
- Future Meetings
 - Ellsworth – Grind is not available as easily
 - Ellsworth City Hall
 - Franklin Town Office – Not Wednesdays or second and fourth Mondays
 - Cherryfield Academy
 - Maine Coast Memorial Hospital – Board Room
 - Machias – Helens
 - Next meeting:
 - December
 - Steve proposed a Special Board meeting to discuss the dues structure
 - Tuesday – December 13th - Franklin Community Center
 - January Tuesday January 10th – Ellsworth City Hall
 - February 14th – Machias – Helen’s Restaurant
- Recognition
 - Sally
 - thanks to Bangor Hydro Electric for working with the trail
 - Thanks to Steve Rees
 - an advertisement for outhouses
 - samples of gravel from different pits
 - Thanks to Bill Ceckler
 - Retrospective plaque
 - BP&L T-Shirt
 - 85 Mile Signpost built by Charlie Corliss