

## **Squannacook Greenways, Inc.**

### **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, April 21, 2022**

Attending:

Mark Cram, Peter Cunningham, Bruce Easom, Ray Jackson, Linda Mack, Bill Rideout, Joan Wotkowicz

#### **Construction update**

Daily inspections continued this week. Bill will pay Gary as soon as the stone dust is finished.

James Gates filled some riprap in the hole at the Harbor Church parking lot. He will work on the lot and canoe launch after the trail is done.

Bill tried to contact the surveyor to help find the property line at the edge of the Harbor Church parking lot, but has not heard back. We believe we know where the markers are based on the easement survey.

#### **NMRHS service project**

About 20 students from the New Orleans Service Learning program worked on the trail from early morning to mid-afternoon today. They broke up and raked out the soil along the sides from Harbor Church to past Harbor Auto. They also spread wood chips along the wet area near Old Meetinghouse Road.

#### **Townsend Earth Day and tree planting**

Bill sent out an email about planting trees for Earth Day on Saturday, April 23, 9 AM-12 PM. Dan and Bill will flag selected trees to transplant. Joan and Paul have permission to dig up white pines on Townsend Highway Department property. We'll put the plantings halfway down the slope along the storage units, at least 10' from the stone dust.

Townsend Earth Day is at NMRHS. Mark will set up a table and Joan will print 30 color handouts and some B&Ws for backup. Cheryl

will bring our large maps.

#### **Other upcoming events and projects**

We'll have a presence at Groton River Fest on June 12.

We'll host an opening ceremony for the new section of trail and invite John Cronin, Lori Trahan, etc. Tentative date April 21.

The first section of trail might need some stone dust fill in a few low spots west of the cut.

#### **Status of grants and ARPA funding**

The Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts awarded us \$4,300 for phase four construction.

Peter said John Cronin is aware of our need for ARPA funding.

MassTrails grant awards are not public yet.

MassTrails sent out a second call for applications this year, but it would have to be spent quickly. Mark suggested we apply to pay for granite benches.

#### **Nomination for new board member**

Bill nominated Linda Mack to our Board of Directors. The nomination was seconded and approved unanimously.

#### **Steve Meehan Bridge**

Stan Dillis advised us that Old Meetinghouse Road is in a floodplain, so the only way to use the road is if the town needs it to get to the river for safety reasons.

Bill developed a letter for the Fire Chief and Police Chief to send to the town requesting use of the road.

### **Financial report**

Bill reported new assets include the \$4,300 grant. Our balance is \$131K and we owe Gary \$104.

### **Review minutes**

A motion to accept the minutes from our meeting on March 30, 2022 was seconded and approved unanimously.

### **Next Meeting**

Squannacook Greenways will hold our next rail trail meeting on **Wednesday, May 18 at 7:00 PM** via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Wotkowicz, Clerk

Squannacook Greenways, Inc.