

Squannacook Greenways, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2012

Attending:

Peter Carson, Mark Cram, Peter Cunningham, Bruce Easom, Al Futterman, Bob Hargraves, Ray Jackson, Christopher Leitao, Steve Meehan, Bill Rideout, Joan Wotkowicz

Review of 11/7 Letter from DCR

After reviewing the letter carefully, we identified points of negotiation to address:

Condition 1

Encroachments – While we understand that this will not be DCR’s role, we want to clarify that MBTA, not Squannacook Greenways, has legal authority.

MBTA lease – We need to see the lease before agreeing to fulfill all conditions.

Condition 2

Prevailing wages – We need to understand how this condition affects us when we are using volunteer labor or services in trade. In this case, no public money is involved although the project is on public land.

Design, Construction, and Operations Plans – What turnaround time can we expect for DCR approval?

Condition 3

EOEEA standards for title exam – According to Attorney John Barrett, an official record will cost ~\$250. Bill Rideout will also request an opinion from Attorney Tom Gustafson.

Condition 4

General liability, professional and environmental impairment liability insurances – In the case of environmental insurance, clarify that we need to purchase but not to maintain it after construction.

Condition 5

Sanitation – This is not a reasonable expectation and was not one of the original requirements for letters from the towns, which we have already obtained.

Peter Cunningham will send an email to DCR requesting clarification. If necessary, we will request another meeting with DCR and request attendance of our supporters from the State legislature.

Peter will contact Representative Sheila Harrington and Senator Eileen Donoghue.

Bill Rideout will contact John Barrett and Tom Gustafson.

Review of 10/23 Townsend Board of Selectmen Meeting

Estimated 75-100 people attended the meeting and the BOS voted 2-1 in favor of the letter to DCR, which was mailed the next day. Sue Lisio expressed an interest in attending abutter meetings.

Review of Meeting with MA Fish & Wildlife

Al Futterman, Steve Meehan, Bruce Easom, and Bill Rideout met with Pat Huckery and Anne Gagnon of DFW, who expressed appreciation for the early consultation and discussed several issues including turtle habitat, impact on hunting and fishing, parking, and public access to Bertozzi WMA.

Possible mitigation activities include clear signage and volunteer projects to protect turtle nests.

Also, DFW recommended that we do not segment the permitting process but address the entire corridor.

Annual Meeting

A motion to re-elect directors serving one-year terms was seconded and passed unanimously. The following directors are now serving three year terms: Mark Cram, Peter Cunningham, Bob Hargraves, and Joan Wotkowicz.

Bruce Easom asked to step down as President.

A nomination to elect Steve Meehan as President was seconded and passed unanimously.

The following nominations for re-election were seconded and passed unanimously: Peter Cunningham as Vice President, Bill Rideout as Treasurer, and Joan Wotkowicz as Clerk.

Funding for Environmental Liability Insurance

Bruce Easom will solicit ideas from the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission.

Bill Rideout noted that the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts may be a resource.

Joan Wotkowicz will continue to research grant funding, including a list of grant sources provided by Mark Cram.

An idea for further investigation is the possibility of a grant match to Groton through the Resor Amendment.

Project Planning

Peter Carson will look into open source tools for Gantt charting.

Corporate Business

Minutes of our Oct 18 meeting were approved unanimously.

Next Meeting

Squannacook Greenways will hold our next rail trail meeting at 7:00 on **Wednesday, December 19** at the **Nashua River Watershed Association**.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Wotkowicz

Clerk

Squannacook Greenways, Inc.