

Squannacook Greenways, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 29, 2013

Attending:

Mark Cram, Peter Cunningham, Bruce Easom, Al Futterman, Ray Jackson, Steve Meehan, Bill Rideout, Rollin Willis, Joan Wotkowicz

DCR Follow-Up

Peter Cunningham learned from DCR Assistant Counsel Tom LaRosa that DCR's approval package was held up by the Department of Capital Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) because DCR does not have authority to enter into a lease longer than five years. As a possible alternative, DCR will ask MA Department of Transportation to become the lease entity.

Our relationship with MA DOT District 3 (Arthur Frost and staff) may be a positive aspect of this arrangement for us. The negative aspect is another delay.

Environmental Insurance Legislation

Peter Cunningham reported no news.

Budget Scenarios

Bill Rideout presented budget scenarios for two project options:

- Non-prevailing wage - Government grants inapplicable for any costs except soft budget items. Estimated amount to raise is \$210,000.
- Prevailing wage - Estimated amount to raise is \$161,000.

Financial Report

Bill Rideout reported the addition of \$18,000 to our budget since last meeting. Current total is \$28,613.07.

Fundraising Plans

We discussed the use of testimonials in mailings, on web site, etc. as a fund-raising tool and brainstormed ideas for donor incentives. We also need to develop a case statement and new brochure including a timeline of where we've been.

Bill asked all members to make a list, by next meeting, of potential donors they could approach during the "silent phase" of fundraising.

Permitting Plans

Bruce Easom suggested we start first in Groton, once we have a DCR letter of agreement. We will submit a Form of Intent, which will pass around town committees and return to us with comments. We should also consider a pre-planning meeting that would include all involved parties and could include Townsend.

Abutter Outreach

Steve Meehan will continue working on a rough draft of a letter to abutters.

Other Business

We unanimously approved the minutes of our June 20, 2013 meeting with one abstention.

Next Meeting

Squannacook Greenways will hold our next rail trail meeting on **Thursday, September 19** at 7:00 P.M. at the NRWA.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Wotkowicz

Clerk

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