

Squannacook Greenways, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2013

Attending:

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

Environmental Insurance Legislation

Peter Cunningham and Bill Rideout traveled to Springfield to testify at a public hearing of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies. No issues or questions were raised about our bill to include non-profits in the Resor amendment. Peter felt it may be reported favorably by the committee.

Moving Together Conference

The 2013 conference will be on October 23 in Boston. Bill Rideout expressed interest in attending again this year especially since individuals from MassDOT and State agencies will be there. Peter Cunningham will attend for the town of Groton.

Alternatives for Trail Terminus in Groton

Bill has posed several options for parking alternatives at the southern end of the rail trail. Al Futterman pointed out issues with parking options south of Bertozzi. We decided our focus is still Bertozzi, despite issues we must address.

Peter Cunningham will find out the status of rail activity near the terminus in Ayer.

DCR Follow-Up

Peter learned from Tom LaRosa that DCR met with MassDOT to work on an agreement with our group. Tom committed to contacting Peter with an update.

Fundraising Plans

Bill shared a list of potential donors and we added more names. He suggested we start fund raising requests at \$5,000 and work down from there.

Mark Cram priced out granite benches at about \$265 each, not included installation or engraving. He will look into the cost for engraving.

Permitting Plans

Bruce Easom is working on compiling maps of the 100 ft. buffer zone for Groton and Townsend. We will need sign-off of the owner (MBTA) before we can submit plans. He suggested we ask Wachusett Greenways about required permitting at the State level.

He also pointed out that continuing past Bertozzi would add several permitting challenges as it requires working within the resource.

Abutter Outreach

Steve Meehan circulated a draft letter. Please send him your comments.

Financial Report

No significant changes from last month. As a reminder, we will owe a report to the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts in January 2014 summarizing our use of their grant funding.

Bill Rideout reminded us that we will need to purchase directors insurance when we receive our letter from DCR.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of our August 29, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously with one correction.

Next Meeting

Squannacook Greenways will hold our next rail trail meeting on **Thursday, October 17** at 7:00 P.M. at the NRWA.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Wotkowicz

Clerk, Squannacook Greenways, Inc.