

Squannacook Greenways, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - February 12, 2014

Attending:

Peter Carson, Mark Cram, Peter Cunningham, Al Futterman, Steve Meehan, Bill Rideout, Joan Wotkowicz

Next Steps from Meeting with DCR/DOT/Transit Realty

We discussed the outcome of the meeting on January 23, 2014 attended by Peter Cunningham and Bill Rideout. Transit Realty said they should have an RFP in the Massachusetts Central Register within 30 days.

We will be able to bid for the lease to build a trail as a non-profit, without DCR or DOT. We will have to prove our credibility, but we have much background information to show we can build it. We have already built credibility with DCR and DOT.

Bill questioned if we will be bidding for more than the 3+ miles we are currently pursuing. If the RFP is defined by town or mile markers, the mileage may be more than we want to commit to, especially since environmental liability insurance will have an expiration date.

Bill will send mile markers to Peter prior to his next call with Bob LaVita of Transit Realty.

Our next step is to write a good proposal that meets the lease requirements and shows we are ready to build the trail.

Steve Meehan inquired if Transit Realty would share a draft RFP.

Bill Rideout distributed new budget scenarios that show the financial implications of leasing the trail without going through DCR or DOT.

Resor Amendment

Peter Cunningham reported no progress on the amendment but Senator Donahue continues to push the legislation along and expects it to get reported favorably.

Recruitment for Board of Directors

Steve will invite former director Rolland Willis to attend a meeting and advise us on fundraising.

Peter Carson tried a few people at Crosswinds and will ask more.

Groton residents would be preferable, especially someone from the trails committee or other committee. An attorney and a civil engineer would be ideal.

Financial Report

Bill itemized the corporate filings that are due.

Fundraising

Al Futterman and Bill spoke with Jean Lindquist from the Mt. Watatic capital campaign, who provided some fund raising advice.

Joan showed samples from a graphic artist who might work with us on a fund raising brochure.

Misc Business

Steve voiced an idea to ask the candidates for Townsend Selectman if they would like a briefing on rail trail. He will get a list of candidates from the Town Clerk.

Mark Cam notes that Townsend Earth Day celebration will be on April 26.

Peter Carson noted that Groton River Fest will be on June 8.

Review of Jan 8 Meeting minutes

A motion to accept the minutes from our January 8, 2014 meeting was seconded and passed unanimously.

Next Meeting

Squannacook Greenways will hold our next rail trail meeting on **Wednesday, March 12** at the NRWA.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Wotkowicz

Clerk, Squannacook Greenways, Inc.