

STURBRIDGE TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES – February 12, 2022

LOCATION: Town Hall Conference Room

VOTING ATTENDEES: Brandon Goodwin (BG), Fritz Reeve (FR), David Peterkin (DP), Richard Paradise (RP), Jennifer Scherer (JS)

ASSOCIATE ATTENDEES: David Vadneis (DV)

GUESTS: None

RECORDED BY: Fritz Reeve, STC Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: 8:30 AM

Planning Session:

- Ice Sculpting – Blocks being dropped off on Sunday
- Winter Festival – town sponsored, special events committee, ice sculptures as well. Planned for today but postponed to Tuesday night. Might be good to align with town on this event.
- Girl Scouts looking for area to plant trees. TC recommended planting evergreen trees at Riverlands parking lot. TC indicated he has trees already. Project needs to be done by May.
- Summary of last month activities
 - Great plan for Leadmine properties established for 2022
 - Hiring an engineer to manage the GTT TEA grant project construction
 - Northern Tree awarded RFP to build flow trails on Riverlands
 - SCA crew acquired
- Topics for discussion
 - Wednesday, 6:30 meeting for Conway group and Master Plan. Project introduction and where we are today. Conway students will facilitate an open discussion on six goals.
 - Grants:
 - MassTrail Grant projects?
 - Will tackle this after the planning sessions are done
 - TLGV Grants
 - Cleanup
 - Green Ups – native plants, removal of invasive plants
 - Riverlands
 - OSV easements – near sheds
 - OSV easements – village side up near house that is being restored
 - OSV easements – 56 stallion hill, abutting Riverlands parking lot, high tension wires
 - Extend GTT to Holland Road
 - Land behind old Candy Store/Paws on River Road. Will need easement through the property. Would allow STC to connect Farquar road to old Rt 15.
 - Riverwalk trail needs work. Old culvert. Prepped for bridge crossing

- Hiring an engineer to help move parking lot and bridge project forward. Need budget numbers for a design of that plan. A finalized plan to be ready to go to RFP. Fritz to work with Tom C. to get quotes.
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- Plimpton
 - Main loop clearing and fine gravel
 - A lot of discussion around Hawk Spur Trail and whether its needed. Decision was to keep Hawk Spur Trail and remove part of Plimpton Trail that is right angle to Holden Trail. STC would want to keep Holder Trail out to property line for future connection to Cedar Street.
 - Agreed there are three culverts and a bridge needed on Plimpton.
 - Need to have conversation with Community Preservation to see if STC can partner with others (Hamilton, Wells) to get trails on similar standards.
- Fiske Hill
 - STC walked the trail in January
 - Will put in 10 car parking lot off Fiske Hill
 - Will put in Trek Trail loop trail
 - Access to OFS as well
- Long Pond
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- Conway Students
 - Evan and Amanda joining the meeting
 - Guthooks - app that shows you where you are on a specific trail (GPS location). TrailForks app.
 - Amanda has collected all open source Sturbridge trails maps and consolidated to a single map.
 - Don't have wayfinding way or app.

ADJOURN: BG motions to adjourn. FR seconds motions. Vote 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:34 PM