

STURBRIDGE TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES – May 16, 2022

LOCATION: Town Hall Conference Room

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

ASSOCIATE ATTENDEES: Tom Chamberland (TC)

GUESTS: None

RECORDED BY: Fritz Reeve, STC Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: 7:08 PM

Trail Counter Data:

- In April
 - There were 7,377 total trail visitors based on TrafX counter data. This is down from 9,448 in the same month last year. This trend continues indicating the increased use of our trails during the COVID-19 period.
 - The most visited property was Leadmine (Shattuck, Morgan, Pinelands) with 5,586 visitors, followed by Heins Farm with 1,174 visitors
 - Trail usage was up on all trails compared to the previous month (March)
 - Note: no traffic counters on Plimpton nor Long Pond yet

REVIEW of PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

- Review of the April 14, 2022 meeting minutes. TC motions to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. BG seconds motion. Vote 4-0 to approve.

BUDGET:

- Starting to close out some accounts.
- Roughly \$10K of discretionary monies

TEA GRANT:

- TA will not issue Notice to Proceed for this project since the town has not seen the money (\$203K) from the Federal Government yet
- BSC has hired Butch Jackson to manage the TEA construction project

GRANTS:

- The Flow Trails designed by Sinuosity on the Riverlands are finished now.
- John Foley will flag all the remaining Flow Trails that were not covered in the contract.

TRAIL WORKDAYS/UPDATES:

- May 18 – Girl Scouts planting shrubs at Riverlands parking lot
- May 21 Trail Day
 - Riverlands

- Brickyard Trail work. Remove tree at end of trail.
 - Handwork to fix up shoulder of the GTT trail
 - Paint 7 Ridges trail
- Fiske Hill
 - Need to finish flagging the trail there
- Riverlands
 - In future workdays, crews will fix some of the flow trail banks and curves to make it more rideable.
- Long Pond
 - Orange Trail – need to do some work on the culverts. STC needs to submit Notice of Intent to do some work there.
 - Need to present trail plan to the Conservation Agent
- Plimpton
 - Need NOI for upcoming work

TA UPDATE:

- No Update

FROST UPDATE:

- No Update

ConCom MEETINGS:

- No Update

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 21, third Saturday workday

OLD BUSINESS:

- Received two hard copies of the 2022 Trail Sustainability Plan from the students at The Conway School. 22 more copies are on backorder.
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NEW BUSINESS:

- Long Pond – Add two flow trails coming off the Over the Hill Trail
 - Flow 1 Yellow/White markings
 - Flow 2 Yellow/Black markings
- BG motions to approve the Long Pond Trail map as presented by TC with the inclusion of the two flow trails so it can be submitted to the CA. The proposed trail naming and colors are:
 - Long Pond – Orange
 - Flow 1 Yellow/White
 - Flow 2 Yellow/Black
 - Connector to be added between Long Pond and Over the Hill
 DP seconds the motion. Vote 4-0.
- Farmers Market – STC to be represented one Sunday in June

NEXT MEETING: June 9, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURN: BG motions to adjourn. FR seconds motions. Vote 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM