

## **STURBRIDGE TRAILS COMMITTEE**

### **MEETING MINUTES – April 13, 2023**

**LOCATION:** Center School

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

**ASSOCIATE ATTENDEES:** Tom Chamberland (TC) via Zoom

**GUESTS:** Dominic Perreault (Scout)

**RECORDED BY:** Fritz Reeve, STC Secretary

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**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:33 PM

#### **Trail Counter Data:**

- In March:
  - There were 4,574 total trail visitors based on Trafx counter data. This is a decrease of 65 visitors as compared to last month. This data includes traffic from Leadmine, Riverlands, Heins Farm, Plimpton, and Long Pond trail heads.
  - The most visited property was Leadmine (Shattuck, Morgan, Pinelands) with 3,494 visitors, followed by Riverlands with 600 visitors, Heins Farm with 219 visitors, Plimpton with 137 visitors, and Long Pond with 124 visitors.

#### **REVIEW of PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:**

- Review of the March 13, 2023 meeting minutes. BG motions to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. RP seconds motion. Vote 5-0 to approve.

#### **BUDGET:**

- Now have \$3,900.35 in trails gift account.

#### **GRANTS:**

- TEA Grant – TA needs to write a letter to close out the project. Conservation Commission has been asked to issue a certificate of compliance for the project.
- Riverlands Parking Lot – extension of the NOI to allow certificate of compliance for the project
- TLGV grant approved and materials purchased for April 15 Cleanup Day
  - Yellow Trash Bags
  - Permethrin Tick Spray
  - Lawn garden bags
  - Red, Yellow, and Green trail marking flags
  - Water
  - Pizza and Soda for volunteers
- Should hear about the MassTrails grants submitted this year by May/June.

**Dominic Perreault discussion about "natural playground" project:**

- Dominic reviewed possible trails at Heins Farm and Riverlands for potential sites for the "natural playground". Two sites along Riverwalk trail investigated. Another site

**TRAIL WORKDAYS/UPDATES:**

- April 15 Trail Day
  - Meet at Riverlands at 7:30 am
  - All trails; parking lots, trash, litter, trail maintenance.  
11:30 pizza
    - Permethrin tick spray, yellow trash bags, trail flags
  - May 20
  - Jun 17

**TA UPDATE:**

- BG met with TA this week.
- TA aligned with STC for the NOI's needed for Leadmine, Long Pond, and Plimpton.
- STC will submit to Opacum for Riverlands bridge and second phase of flow trails.

**FROST UPDATE:**

- Board members-at-large:
- Treasurer: Brandon Goodwin
- Secretary: Fritz Reeve
- Chair: Jeff Burdick
- Vice-Chair: Rich Paradise
- Past President: Tom Chamberland
- Anne Fischer -
- Karen Brothers - email and event coordination
- Annual Meeting - usually held in January

**ConCom MEETINGS:**

- No Update

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- April 16 - Sunday hike at 10:00 am at Heins Farm
- April 23 - Sunday walkthrough of Fiske Hill

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- BG motions to change the signature authority for Dominic Perreault's Eagle Scout project from Jen Scherer to Dave Peterkin. JS seconds. Vote 5 - 0 to approve.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mike Dobos, a friend of Dave Vadnais, is submitting an application for STC position.
- SCA crew scheduled for June 19 - 28
  - Camp at Westville
  - Project Priorities:
    1. Focus on the wet section of Mt. Laurel. Need to get rock done in the section and bridges will be done later.
    2. Widen the South side of Mt. Laurel trail
    3. Continue rock armoring for two other bridge crossing on north end of Mt. Laurel

- BG motions for TC to put out the Fiske Hill parking lot bid project. JS seconds. Vote 5 - 0 to approve.
- BG motions for TC to purchase two gates. JS seconds. Vote 5 - 0 to approve.
- BG motions for TC to purchase of fine gravel to cover 100 feet. JS seconds. Vote 5 - 0 to approve.
- Discussion about creating a trail to support people on the autism spectrum

**NEXT MEETING:** May 11, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

**ADJOURN:** BG motions to adjourn. FR seconds motions. Vote 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

