

## **STURBRIDGE TRAILS COMMITTEE**

### **MEETING MINUTES – September 14, 2023**

**LOCATION:** Center School

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

**ASSOCIATE ATTENDEES:** Tom Chamberland (TC), Mike Dobos (MD), Nate Lane (NL)

**GUESTS:** Shawn Reed, Dominic, Hunter Peck (MUTT)

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

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**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 PM

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

- In August:
  - There were 5,545 total trail visitors based on Trafx counter data. This is a increase of 531 visitors as compared to last month. This is a YTD increase of 98 visitors from this time last year. 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 4,118 visitors, followed by Riverlands with 600 visitors, Heins Farm with 568 visitors, Long Pond with 138 visitors, and Plimpton with 121 visitors.

#### **Scout project: Dominic (Guest)**

- BG motions to approve the location of the Natural Playground" along side the Heins Farm trail. TC seconds motion. Vote 4 – 0 to approve.
- BG will be the beneficiary for the scout project

#### **Hunter Peck (Guest):**

- Is asking to have the trails at Riverlands cleaned up to support biking for youth (MUTT). This may include trimming back trails

#### **Shawn Reed (Guest)**

- Shawn is offering to tell the history of the making of Sturbridge Trails through film
- TC motions to approve Shawn Reed to document the history and use of Sturbridge trail through film. BG seconds motion. Vote 4 – 0 to approve.

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

- Review of the June 08, 2023 meeting minutes. TC motions to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. BG seconds motion. Vote 4-0 to approve.
- Review of the July 13, 2023 meeting minutes. TC motions to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. BG seconds motion. Vote 4-0 to approve.

#### **BUDGET:**

- Purchased orange and green paint for trail blazes

- Ordered some additional signage (for Seven Ridges, caution leaving area sign) \$1,044. Previous expense of signage about \$400.

#### **GRANTS:**

- Received bids back for 2023 grants from two different bidders. STC recommends to BOS to award bids for both project to Tighe & Bond
  - GTT-extension River Road \$ 67,700
  - 459a Main St & Bridge \$233,000

#### **TRAIL WORKDAYS/UPDATES:**

- Sep 16
  - Leadmine Mtn:
    - Mtn Laurel trail - Relocation/rock armoring. Need 6-8 people and RTV, picks, shovels, pry bar, loppers, gloves, rock slings
    - Mtn Laurel trail - paint/repaint (green & white) short section from Cow Stile
  - Long Pond - cut and remove small root/stones. Need 2-3 people and loppers, Pulaski, round shovel, steel rake

#### **TA UPDATE:**

- The TA has sent the CPA agreement letter to the CORPS for the GTT-WVL. This completes the transaction and the GTT-WVL project!

#### **FROST UPDATE:**

- Next meeting will be on October 12 at 6 pm at Center School

#### **ConCom MEETINGS:**

- No Update

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- None

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- RP purchased Trek tee shirts for \$502. STC will ask STA for reimbursement.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Heins Farm traffic counter was vandalized and is now inoperable. The unit had sticks and dirt stuck into the lens that made it over count. TC is working to replace affected part (\$241)

**NEXT MEETING:** October 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

**ADJOURN:** BG motions to adjourn. FR seconds motions. Vote 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM