

## Minutes

### **Rail Trail Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Thursday September 21, 2023- 6:00 PM**

**Note Location: Carriage House, Endicott Park**

#### **Attendees:**

RTAC Members: Paul McNulty, Nancy McNulty, Joe Anthony, Charles Lincicum, Mark Jones, Tom Powers, Larry Perreault, Scott Bornstein. Not Present; Matt Duggan

**Others:** Tyler Berry, Sarah Bornstein, Nancy McCann, Jay Mardly, Bill Bradstreet, Cliff Smith, Eric Emerson.

#### **Approval of RTAC meeting minutes from July 20, 2023**

- Approved the minutes by consent.

#### **New Business**

##### **Comments from public and RTAC**

- Comments from RTAC; Hello and Welcome tonight to some new RT Enthusiasts!
- Nancy McNulty noted; the Parade of Trees is happening soon! Connect with Nancy with thoughts for a theme, not necessarily Rail Trail related. Nancy will organize.
- Mark noted, while on the trail he had an encounter with an unruly E-Bike speeder. Police were notified.
- Paul and Nancy suggested that for any suspicious activity (non-emergency) on the trail, its best to notify Tyler as he will notify the appropriate people.
- Charley will attend DTAC meeting to discuss Maple Street crossing concerns.
- Bill Bradstreet, a very avid Rail Trail user noted; accumulation of vegetation on the trail that blocks vehicle visibility. RTAC validated his concern and will clean out smaller issues or have the town work on larger issues.

##### **Proposed rail trail parking lot at the rear of 469-471 Maple Street, (Nancy McCann)**

- Nancy McCann, an attorney from Danvers, representing a condominium building project here in town, joined us tonight to discuss their proposal for a parking lot adjacent to the trail extension.
  - Development plan details are available from the Danvers Zoning Board of Appeals.
- In addition to the proposed condominium building, approximately 10-12 parking spaces abutting the trail extension would be created for Rail Trail users.
- Nancy McCann noted that the developer will fund the development of these trail extension parking spaces.
- Paul initiated discussion regarding if/how this would benefit trail users, and any impact on volunteer maintenance needs. The committee seems to be in favor of the idea for additional rail trail parking spaces.
- Nancy McCann noted that a letter from the RTAC noting its support would be helpful with the Board of Appeals

- Paul will draft a letter of support for the committee to review, and if all agree, send to the town.

#### **Review trail maintenance - town mowing and RTAC grooming (Tyler, Charley, Tom)**

- Tyler noted that the new flail mower and tractor cuts down on mowing time and is doing well. He noted as well that for safety reasons, the trail section being mowed will be closed during the work.

#### **Discuss possible purchase of electric utility bike (Tom and Charley)**

- Tom noted; Discussion began when we traded in a tractor.
- Tom spent some time with Hunter @ Western Cycle; 2 options were discussed.
- Tom provided a handout detailing Class 1 Or 2 Utility E-Bike with pedal assist
  - Option 1; Electric Cargo Bike with trailer can be disconnected for storage purposes.
  - Option 2; Urban Arrow Brand (from Netherlands), cannot be disconnected for easy storage purposes.
- Tom provided handouts for viewing noting the rough costs for each bike
- Tom and Charley will develop a more detailed proposal and justification for the October or November meeting.

#### **Current Recent Business**

- **Danvers Church of the Nazarene Youth Group offer to volunteer (Nancy, Elaine, Charley)**
  - Nancy and Charley spoke on Elaine's behalf; the RTAC is on board and will continue to work with the group to adopt an area for beautifications.
- **Trail flyer as Electric Bill insert.**
  - Mark researched this and found 10,000 inserts are required. The group agreed this was not worth the cost of printing,

#### **Update from the town - e.g., Beaver Park crossing, pedestrian beacons, northwest extension sign posts, etc. (Tyler)**

- Beaver Park crossing will be done soon as DPW is waiting to build up a list of contractors for a longer list of projects
- Beacons and sign posts have arrived for installation at the Hobart crossing.
- Tyler noted that the plans for ADA compliant crossing at Route 62 been approved by the conservation commission. Next step is detailed plans and funding.
- Joe noted the granite pieces stacked up near the shed, and suggested they be put to use on the trail. Chris Sanborn, is evaluating using the blocks for a potential park in this area.

#### **Update trail entrance signs and new MM decal installations( Paul and Charley)**

- Joe, Charley, Mark noted; Entrance signs are done.
- Paul, Charley noted; MM work will be happening after beacons and a new trail is completed.

#### **Adjourn RTAC**

- Paul initiated a vote to adjourn RTAC Meeting; All in favor.