

Rail Trail Advisory Committee
Weston Town Hall
June 17, 2019

Committee Member Attendees: Paul Penfield, Chris Stix, Gail Palmer, Mark Horowitz, Anne Benning, Eli Mather, Eric Rosenthal, Ellen Freeman Roth

Not Attending: Phyllis Halpern, Mike McCarthy

Guests: Chris Fitzgerald (Recreation department)

- 1) Approval of May 13th minutes: approved
- 2) **Citizens Comments:** none
- 3) **Construction Report:** Paul Penfield reported: Lynch Co. is working at the Concord Road trail head and apparently went over the property line (3 inches). Plans show property line in wrong location, and they followed stone fence. Paul is managing situation and it will be resolved. Conant Road: prefabricated underpass being put into place – these almost always leak, was told a membrane would be installed on top. At Friday's tailgate meeting they were told the site doesn't meet the requirements for the membrane (according to the company/manufacturer). They may investigate other possibilities, however it may end up just leaking when it rains. Could require external sealing after the installation. Lynch is not moving as fast as we had hoped. Chris Fitzgerald says they have an initial bill from Lynch, but \$104k still needs to be spent between now and July 1st (includes matching grant). Going to start at Church Street given the excavation work taking place there, it is the more costly location. Chris F will be reaching out to Tom Cullen/Amanda DCR managing grant to raise awareness and voice our concern regarding project and budget spending.
- 4) **Update and possible decision on signs** – Gail shared a general proof of the green aluminum sign provided by Fast Signs in Waltham. Some discussion about the sign language and it was agreed to circulate the proof so that the committee members could individually consider suggestions to improve the language and continue the discussion at the next meeting. Some agreement that sign should be horizontal vs vertical to include the map on the same sign (vs having a separate stand-alone sign for the map). Need to include a QR code that would lead to further information online. QR code could be managed by FLRT (Friends of the Legacy Rail Trail). Hope to have draft map from Jono available at next meeting.
- 5) **Planning report** – Paul Penfield walked the trail with a representative from Eversource and DCR. Eversource won't be done with their work on the trail until September. DCR is considering waiting until after Eversource work is completed to do their planting. Because Eversource will use herbicide, DCR wants to wait in order to mitigate unwanted and potential harm to newly planted plants. Mark Horowitz suggested getting a letter on record to Eversource and DCR about our concerns regarding Eversource's maintenance schedule relative to new growth plantings. PaulP will draft letter and have Michelle Grezenda review as well. Would like to get Stella/DCR signature on it.
- 6) **Trail etiquette discussion and possible publication** – Eric brought up the question of how we respond to postings and concerns about rail trail behavior. Should we be proactive about communicating expected behavior. Eric, Eli and Meg will work on a draft article that can be posted/published in Town Crier and online.

- 7) **Other new business** – Opening event(s). Saturday 10/19 is suggested as the potential date for opening activities. WFTA, Recreation, Dads Foundation, WCCA, FLRT all working together as a town to recognize and celebrate the opening. Recreation would like to include advertisement in the Fall program guide. ChrisF will spearhead, Anne, Eric, Paul will all work together as well. Governor and Alice Peisch need to be invited.
- 8) **Confirm next mtg. July 15th. Tentative August 12th meeting.**
- 9) Motion to adjourn