

Rail Trail Advisory Committee
Weston Town Hall
July 15th, 2019

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

Not Attending: Phyllis Halpern, Mike McCarthy, Meg Kelly, Anne Benning

Guests: Chris Fitzgerald (Recreation department)

- 1) Approval of June 17th minutes: approved
- 2) **Citizens Comments:** none
- 3) **Construction Report:** Conant Road only open during non-working hours. Still some work being done. Generally going well. Managed to get enough work done before end of fiscal year so no money was lost in that process/timeline. Some issues with abutters but those are being managed. Conant should be finished completely by end of August. Church and Concord – not sure of exact end date of construction. Hard to forecast at this point. Tom Cullen has requested an updated timeline. Holding off on the platforms for the benches to ensure there is enough money available to follow through with the bench installation.
- 4) **Update and possible decision on signs** – Question was asked if the green aluminum signs are reflective. Gail will find out. The initial map was reviewed and discussed. Debate over the level of detail needed in the map. Need to include a QR code on the sign – Paul P said he'd be able to create one. Guiding thoughts about the map: we need to prioritize the use cases such as: where am I, where do I go from here, where are key destinations, distances to various points? Examples of other maps from other trails. Suggestion of a scaled down map like a subway map as an option. Should seek WFTA feedback on the intersecting trails.
- 5) **Planting report** – Paul P has not been able to connect with DCR regarding their recent trail walk which took place while he was out of town. A lot of plants have already been planted. Everything west of Concord Road has been planted, particularly along Stonegate. East of Church Street has been partially planted but not completed. Clearly some of the planting has taken place before the Eversource trimming has been completed.
- 6) **Trail etiquette discussion and possible publication** – Eli put together a memo. The goal: publish an article in Town Crier and FB targeting frequent trail users encouraging them to be advocates for good etiquette. Encourage engagement. One article: call to action (All on Board/Take the Pledge). Second article: a list of resources and citizens tool kit. Eli will distribute the draft for review and discussion at next meeting.
- 7) **Opening celebration discussion** – Chris Fitzgerald provided overview for Oct. 19 opening celebration. Ribbon Cutting relay/opening procession starting in Wayland leading to Weston. DCR/State dignitaries, town reps, various town orgs. Fun run/walk, guided walking tour (historical and WFTA), guided group bike ride, potential mural design contest. Suggested including a DRC rep on the planning committee.
- 8) **Discussion about CPA application** – PaulP would like to request funds for plantings at Stonegate that were eliminated in the DCR plan. Stonegate was the priority, DCR took out some key screenings, would like to get funds for planting and manage that process (outside of current DCR grant). No objection to Paul applying for CPC funds. Eli, Gail and Eric will assist as needed given

prior work on the planting sub-committee. Given the limited size of the potential request, Paul may not need to go to town meeting but apply directly to CPC for their discretionary funding.

9) **Likely no RTAC mtg. August 12th. ChrisF may instead use that date for a next mtg to plan the opening celebration.**

10) Motion to adjourn