

Holland Trails Committee Minutes

Date: September 28, 2016

Present: Richard & Chris Haller, and Stacy Riley

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Dick Haller. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Old Business

Dick met with Tom Chamberlain on September 26th to discuss how clean-ups have been conducted in Sturbridge, a town with different circumstances, since they have a landfill & recycling center. In any case, Tom feels that cooperation of DPW is critical.

Sturbridge conducted preregistration. Those registering indicated the street they were cleaning and designated a pick-up point.

Free yellow trash bags were obtained from Mass. Highway and, to avoid household trash, only these were accepted. Tom suggested that we contact Tom Smola.

A possibility would be to submit a list of bulky items for later pick-up.

Sturbridge belongs to the Central Mass. Mosquito Control District which offers free disposal of tires (drained & stacked on pallets). The Riverlands clean-up yielded 204 tires. Wales charges \$6 to \$25 depending on the size of the tire.

Last Green Valley offers a grant for \$500. This is not intended to cover disposal, but Tom says there is some flexibility including a larger possible amount. LGV could also be a possible resource for how-to info.

The Board of Health may have information on possible grants. Norcross may be another source at some point, and Pioneer Valley may know of grants and resources.

It might be helpful to talk to the company the town contracts for trash disposal and Roberts regarding tire disposal.

Chris volunteered to talk to HRA about sponsorship and coordination of this effort.

Tom also mentioned that Central Mass. has grants for bike stands & repair stands. Possibly a similar program exists for our region.

Fred and Dick installed 4 posts and signs including one at the Center, and Dick installed additional signs on the trail.

The post at the end of Cross Road is missing. Dick will investigate.

We could use an additional 16 signs. it was decided unanimously to purchase 20 trail signs (@\$6 each = \$120).

Not everyone has been sworn in and completed the ethics testing. Please do so as soon as possible. Stacy indicated that work commitments make it difficult for her to participate in the Committee and that she would be willing to step aside, if a replacement can be found.

The additional gravel purchased to complete the Center trail cost \$354.60. The posts & hardware cost \$49.43.

Perhaps 30 attended the ribbon cutting. Some selectmen were there as were Senator Gobi and Representative Smola

The refreshments cost \$122.75 and were very much appreciated.

New Business:

A certificate was presented to the Committee by Todd Smola. The Committee voted unanimously to spend an amount from the gift account not to exceed \$75 to frame the certificate.

It was decided to cancel the October work day, but to go forward with the November one. We will try to complete the Old East Brimfield Road section, do general fall clean-up, and install more trail signs. Another

possibility is maintenance of the Center trail. Chris suggested that cones be available to mark animal holes and erosion until these can be fixed. It would also be a good idea to have a bucket of gravel on site for minor repairs. Dick will see to this.

It was decided that there is no need to extend the lease of the portable toilet to cover the workday. It will be removed after October 23rd.

The fall trail ride is in a few weeks. Walktober t shirts are available. The ride will be Sunday this year, but will go from 10:00 to 12:00 as we have done in the past. Dick will take care of additional publicity.

Upcoming dates:

Oct. 16th: Walktober trail ride, 10:00-12:00

Oct. 26th: our next meeting

Nov. 5th scheduled workday, 8:30-12:30

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Richard Haller
Chairman / Secretary