

Merrymeeting Trail Committee
Wednesday, June 22, 2016
Meeting Notes

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m.

Attending:

Ruth Indrick, KELT; Victor Langelo, Topsham; Tom Reeves, Gardiner;
Nichole Briand, Bowdoinham; Victoria Boundy, Richmond; Lee
Cataldo, BTLT



Explore Merrymeeting Bay bike ride

Scheduled for 7/17 (Sunday)

9 – 3: RI at Bowdoinham’s waterfront park at a table with information about MMT and about rides that people can take through the farms

- Route maps, C2C guides, Farm Day guides, MMT water bottles, MMT stickers, water jug

Ride rest stop planning:

- include rest stops on map
- NB will check with farms to see if they would mind hosting a rest stop
 - will include jug of water and snacks
- family ride = Six Rivers and Harvest Tide
 - rest rooms at Jellerson School, Bowdoinham waterfront park
- intermediate ride = Bluebell Farm
 - rest rooms at Richmond waterfront park, exit 43 truck stop at corner of Ridge Road
- advanced ride = Campo De Fiori, Bluebell Farm
 - rest rooms at Richmond waterfront park, exit 43 truck stop at corner of Ridge Road, rec fields in Topsham, Topsham head of tide park

Other:

- VB will check to see if Tender Soles in Richmond will be able to be a stop on the ride or will forward RI their email address so she can check
- VB will tell Annabella's that there might be riders coming through
- NB will talk with sheriff's office about having a car parked to keep traffic slow during the family ride
- NB will check with any farms that have items for sale to see if they will do a drop-off at the BBQ for bikers
- VL will ask Lee from Center Street Cycles if he would be willing to be the support vehicle for the ride

Supplies:

- orange water coolers (5)
 - NB will contact Steve Balboni to see if we can borrow them from Bath Rec Dept.
- Fruit bars, bananas, and grapes
 - RI will purchase before ride and deliver to Nichole on Friday, 7/15
- orange cones
 - LC will check to see if we can borrow cones from the farmer's market
 - RI will pick up cones from Lee on Saturday or Lee will drop them off early on Sunday
- MMT water bottles
 - NB will bring day of ride
- Stakes and signs saying things like 'Slow, bike ride'
 - RI will bring day of ride

Ride leaders:

- Victor Langelo (intermediate or advanced)
- Lee Cataldo (family)
 - Byron Schuldt will help
- possibly Sandy Bickford (intermediate or advanced)

Advertising:

- RI will write press release
 - RI will post on community calendars
 - LC will email list to RI
 - RI will send to local newspapers
- RI will email out press release and posters
- VL will post information in: MM Wheelers newsletter, posters at Center Street Cycle, posters at Six Rivers and Apple Creek at Brunswick Farmer's Market
- VB will share on Richmond page, post in town
- NB will share on Bowdoinham page, post in town
- share with ME farmland trust
- LC will post on BTLT page, newsletter
- RI will post of KELT page, newsletter, posters around Bath

Maps

- VL will create maps and send to RI

Communications Committee Update

- A draft logo for the MMT Friends group was developed
 - people liked the look of it and that it showed a range of ages using the trail
- was more discussion about the name of a friend's group
 - MMT Initiative - sounds like an action group but not necessarily a trail support group (same for MMT Coalition)

- Friends of MMT - sounds too much like Friends of MM Bay
- folks will consider other options for next meeting, email RI with any suggestions

Sewall Foundation Grant 2016-2017 project planning

- Video
 - communications committee will coordinate planning for a MMT video
- TR wants to figure out how to make the trail 'something that is transformative'
- rail/trail assessment
 - we will research options for who should complete this assessment and discuss them at the next meeting
 - have any other trail systems done a temporary trail surface?

Board of Supervisors Updates

- RI will get in touch with VB for a copy of the bylaws
- BOS will not be meeting in summer
- April meeting was intro to trail and trail powerpoint
- next meetings will include meetings with other trail groups
- The groups did some trail segment prioritization
 - one new priority identified: South Gardiner, could tie in with KRRT and is not a very high cost section

Design and Construction Updates

- the town of Richmond sent a commitment letter for local match for the phase 1 segment of the trail in Richmond (High Street to Main Street)
 - possible next step - see if local senate representatives will speak with DOT commissioner about the project

KRRT Updates:

- Their annual half marathon fund raiser is this coming weekend (6/26)
 - 225 to 250 participants, 16 states, 3 countries
 - Tom will put out brochures for C2C and Bowdoinham Farm Day
- City of Gardiner's Cobbossee Stream Trail
 - is in city council budget and will be doing local fund raising
 - still need an updated engineering study
 - Gardiner is in the process of replacing 2 bridges on Cobbossee stream, and the replacement will include a 10 ft. wide pedestrian bridge that will link KRRT parking to park where MMT starts to Cobbossee trail

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Next MMT meeting: July 27th at 9 a.m. in Bowdoinham

Submitted by R.I.

