

Merrymeeting Trail Committee
Wednesday, September 24, 2014
Meeting Notes

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m.

Attending:

Nicole Briand, Bowdoinham; Ruth Indrick, KELT; Victor Langelo, Topsham;
Andy Hendrickson, KRRT; Tom Reeves, Richmond; Linda Christie, Access
Health; Steve Musica, Richmond; Victoria Boundy, Richmond; Jeremy Cluchey,
Bowdoinham; Carrie Kinne, KELT; Lynne Sanford, Bowdoinham



Board of Supervisors

- Meeting date: Nichole will send out an email to all the people selected by the towns to be on the Board of Supervisors
 - meeting will be scheduled within 3 weeks, Nichole will send out email this week to schedule
- Gardiner
 - Tom spoke with them, and there are not yet any takers to be on the committee
 - Nichole will send out email about the meeting date and time and cc Scott Morelli so that he can pick people
 - if Gardiner does not attend, the meeting can go forward with the other 3 towns.

Capital to Coast Brochure

- Brochure ordering
 - Ruth will check with Lincoln County Publishing to get a quote (already has 2 other quotes)
 - 10,000 will be ordered
 - Ruth will order brochures in the next few weeks
- Bike Maine Display
 - Carrie shared a poster of the brochure and info about the trail with Bike Maine
 - few attended, but those who did were very interested
- Publicity plans
 - Share brochure with:
 - bike shops: Mathews (Farmingdale), Bath Cycle (Woolwich), 2 bike shops in Brunswick, running shop in Brunswick
 - Bicycle Coalition of Maine (so they can share at their rides)
 - East Coast Greenway
 - kiosks and bulletin boards
 - post at:
 - bulletin board in Richmond (Victoria)
 - kiosk at Hannafords in Gardiner (Carrie and Andy)
 - post brochure and include note saying that copies of the brochure can be picked up at town office

Other Outreach

- next step = getting kiosks set up in Brunswick and Richmond
- Nichole has MMT water bottles that could be used for outreach
- 1st Sat in Oct. is the Merrymeeting Wheelers Fall Foliage ride
 - outreach materials could be shared at this event

MMT Interim Route Signs

- signage and route are officially approved by the DOT
- signs + posts are at the Topsham Public Works Building
- Nichole has information about specifically where the signs should be placed
- towns have the ability and authority to put them up
- all will wait until spring to put them up
 - goal is for all to be up by May 1st with all put up within the same 1 to 2 week period
 - Nichole will send out an email to the 4 towns - an FYI about the signs
 - can be mentioned at the Board of Supervisors Meeting

Trail of Statewide Significance

- the Capital to Coats Trail is approved as a Trail of Statewide Significance!
- we can use this designation for advertising purposes and grant applications
- this designation does not come with a \$ value (for the state helping out with match) - it used to in the past but does not now

Workplan

- Done = board of supervisors and map
- To Do:
 - kiosks
 - get interlocal agreements signed
 - set up a relationship between the board of supervisors and this group
 - outreach
 - meet with house and senate members from the region to share information about the trail and the project
 - talk about bond to improve rec opportunities in the state
 - talk with Bicycle Coalition of Maine about this
 - education about the C2C trail
 - perhaps a lunch with legislators from Bath to Augusta
 - committees of importance = transportation, recreation, appropriations
 - build ground support for the project
 - KELT can do outreach to town managers + others
 - share info about the project - over the past year...
 - let them know we got Sewall Foundation grant
 - put in a copy of the brochure
 - start dialogue about the trail and give it validation
 - show the town we have \$s
 - give updates
 - Alicia has a Mail Chimp mailing list from the past that Ruth will work with for an email update to mailing list members

- goal is to have an email update sent out a couple times a year
 - mailing should go to Duane Scott and Steve Landry
 - Mailing should go to legislators in house and senate
- KELT can act in the "Friends of" group role
- possibility of developing a video (like the Razorback Greenway video) to market the trail
 - could do before and after renderings
 - potentially involve architecture students from somewhere?
- option for meetings for each town showing the good/bad/ugly/priorities for each town and gathering input, coordinated by KELT
 - is an outreach powerpoint that Wright Pierce made - located in dropbox
 - KELT can edit/update
- Update work plan
- possibility for doing an economic study of the trail and its impact on the towns – an economic development study
 - Options for doing a study: Planning Decision, Rails to Trails National, Muskey School (Carrie will check into this), Colgon, Frank O' Herra, MCOG/MCED (Nichole and Victoria will check into this), Saco and western Maine recently did this (who did they use?)

\$ for Trail Sections

- Sewall
 - \$40,000 was allocated to trail corridor
 - \$20,000 to Brown's Point/Pork Point concept
 - \$20,000 to Richmond
 - towns need to invoice KELT for the Sewall \$s
 - ideas for next year's Sewall app:
 - \$s to Gardiner - contact Gardiner now to bring them into this discussion, consider waterfront to South Gardiner section
- Richmond will have \$50,000 from tiff, needs \$60,000 for preengineering, needs a couple hundred for all engineering and construction.
 - Victoria will look into details for this cost of preengineering and match
- other funding options
 - individual donors with "Friends of" group - a lot of groundwork is needed for this
 - foundation grants

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Next meeting: October 22nd at 9 a.m.

Submitted by R.I.