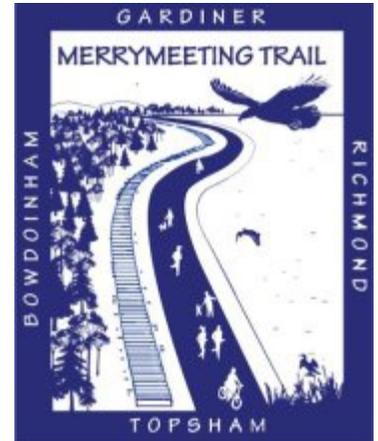


Merrymeeting Trail Committee
Wednesday, March 12, 2014
Meeting Notes

The meeting convened at 8:30 a.m.

Attending:

Tom Reeves, Richmond; Victor Langelo, Topsham; Nicole Briand, Bowdoinham; Jon Edgerton, Wright-Pierce; Linda Christie, Access Health; Ruth Indrick, KELT; Jeremy Cluchey, Bowdoinham; Rod Melanson, Topsham



Introductions

A new face at the meeting was Jeremy Cluchey, a new Bowdoinham resident who lives near the railroad tracks and is interested in getting involved with the Merrymeeting Trail.

Mapping Project

- Ruth is compiling information for the maps from each of the towns and will have all the data together by next week.
- People agree that having a link to both Maine trail finder and to local organization websites will be beneficial for users of the final brochure in paper/digital form
- Canoe routes should not be included in the brochure.
- Ruth will check in with Alicia about the contract with CCGIS.
- Ruth will email Nichole a draft of the map when it is together so she can share it with DOT for review of route accuracy.
- After the review, Ruth will share the map information with CCGIS, discussing the purpose of the map and identifying that we are giving them all the info for the region, and they should cut it down to what is relevant and what will look good.
- Victor will work on getting the interim route on Maine trailfinder and getting a google map version on the MMT website.

Interim Route and Signage

- The sign and the number of signs have been approved by DOT (by Steve Landry).
- Nichole will be meeting with someone from the DOT soon to discuss the cost of having the DOT make the signs.
- As soon as the pricing is set, we will move forward to get the signs made and placed.

Kiosk Signs

There are no updates for the kiosk signs.

Interlocal Agreement

Bowdoinham

- Presented to the selectboard language to put on the warrant that would give the selectboard the authority to enter into an interlocal agreement for the MMT.
- Selectboard approved putting it on the warrant.

Richmond

- Presented to the selectboard language to put on the warrant that would give the selectboard the authority to enter into an interlocal agreement for the MMT.
- Selectboard approved putting it on the warrant.

Topsham

- Presented to the selectboard language to put on the warrant that would approve the interlocal agreement for the MMT.
- Selectboard did not approve putting it on the warrant .
 - The selectboard did not think it would pass at the meeting without major explanation.
 - there are currently too many unknowns.
 - The selectboard wants some of the questions to be resolved before it goes to the town.
 - The selectboard does not feel that they have had time or opportunity to provide input for the agreement.
- Rod and/or Victor will talk with the town attorneys to see if it is possible for the interlocal agreement to go through the same process in Topsham that it is going through in Bowdoinham and Richmond - having the town meeting approve giving the selectboard the authority to join an interlocal agreement instead of approving the whole agreement.
- If attorneys approve, Victor will return to the selectboard to ask them to put on the warrant the same language that Bowdoinham and Richmond are using.
 - Nichole will share the language with Victor.
 - The presentation can highlight that this language has already been approved by Bowdoinham and Richmond.

Gardiner

- Because they have a council instead of a selectboard, it is easier for them to adopt something and then amend it later.
- Tom will talk to Gardiner to determine if now is the appropriate time to ask the council to approve the agreement.
 - If so, Tom will bring it to the city council - for their approval of the agreement
 - Because of Gardiner's process, Tom suggests having the agreement approved 1st, then having the town appoint people to be on a board to review the agreement
- Nichole will send Tom the final draft of the interlocal agreement

Proposed process for forming the agreement:

1. The 2014 town meetings will/will not authorize the selectboards to enter into an agreement.
2. The towns will nominate people to work on the agreement/bylaws, and they are updated.
3. The selectboards will approve the agreement or the agreement will go to the town meeting for approval.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Next meeting: April 9, 9:00 a.m., Bowdoinham Town Office.

Submitted by R.I.

