

**MERRYMEETING TRAIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2013 8:30-10:30
BOWDOINHAM FIRE DEPT.**

Participants:

Nicole Briand, Vicky Boundy, Linda Christie , Victor Langelo, Dave Wood, Angela Twitchell, Alicia Heyburn, Steve Musica, Andy Hendrickson, Tom Reeves, Burnham Martin. Joanne Joy invited but not able to attend.

1. Updates

Richmond - Richmond town meeting in April, town is in financial tight spot, did not seem like right time to take on commitment to interlocal agreement.

Bowdoin Biking Walking Paddling group has only met once in the last 6 months.

Topsham not able to get interlocal agreement on town warrant this year, GTTA met with finance cmt and MDOT is requiring them to come up with match prior to scheduling construction. Need \$160k, they have \$30k now. LD16 - An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Transportation Infrastructure - keep an eye out for this (**Alicia** will post to FB)

A2K – Wright Pierce can convert LIDAR if Eileen cannot do it, Tess has interviewed Tom F, Jon, Andrew and will meet with David Vail and Dan Stewart, April DOT decision on TE application for prelim-engineering of the route.

2. Interlocal Agreement

Go to town managers and boards in early summer to review the agreement so that can be approved at town meeting in 2014. Gardiner has no town mtg and can sign. Draft has been reviewed by all town managers, Gardiner has gone extra step of having municipal staff review and has found no issues. Generate cover letter. **Tom** will work on the cover letter.

3. Work Plan

Distributed with meeting materials. Check your assignments. Send events and dates to Nicole

4. Implementation Plan

This committee is not authorize is not to make decisions, but we can make recommendations. WP will send costs for prelim engineering, Jon has list for the sections that we would be most interested in. ie – bridge for crossing cathance in Bowdoinham

Section B2 permitting and construction will be challenging due to wetlands. Committee recommends Alternate Route #2, on road along Browns Pt and Pork Pt. CMP is doing lots of work along that section into 2014. Resurfacing will happen after CMP is done and incremental costs will be low to accommodate active transportation in 2015. This could be our next section to implement.

5. Outreach

Proposed April meeting in Gardiner to review proposed trail and alternate routes. However, the city is busy with projects right now. Tom suggests that we wait until we have a board of supervisors to make big decisions such as route selection.

KRRT friends in transition –new treasurer, new president new babies... now is not a good time to get decisions made. Having meetings in the trail communities is a good idea, but not to make significant decisions. Keep city manager & Nate Rudy in touch. Gardiner does not have a bike ped cmt. Hallowell just formed one.

Encourage key players in each town to attend the [Active Communities Conference](#) on May 7 in Waterville. Registration is only \$40.

6. Rail update

Andy: Apparently PamAm is very interested in this rail line for hauling oil, now two 100 car trains run through Winthrop going to New Brunswick from the Midwest.

Eastern Railroad holds the lease on the “Lower Road” rail section from Brunswick to Augusta. That lease may expire next year. Could we step in and take the lease? Is there an opportunity for railbanking?

Nicole and **Alicia** will meet with Seth Berry and Seth Goodall.

October 4 Providence RI president of Rails to Trails will speak.

7. Fundraising

Tom Reeves has a copy of the nonprofit application from KRRT if we want to use it. This does not give federal 501c3 status. Friends of KRRT bylaws were offered too.

Next Meeting

- May 7 @ Active Communities Conf.
- May 15 large group
- June Awareness Ride

Adjourn 10:30

