

## **Regional Trail Meeting Minutes September 29, 2008**

Present: Bowdoinham – Ben Long (Biking, Walking Paddling Committee) and Nicole Briand (Town Planner); Topsham – Steve Chandler; Richmond – Steve Musica; and Katrina Van Dusen, Regional Planner for MCB&P

Reviewed Memorandum of Agreement and went over Tom Reeve's comments.

- We will rework the second paragraph to include municipal staff and interested residents.
- We discussed the creation of a Board:
  - It is too early in the process
  - We will need by-laws, etc
  - We discussed the purpose of this agreement is to just show support.
  - We decided to wait on setting up a more formal structure.
  - The discussed possibility of setting up a working group, but we don't think that it needs to be part of this memorandum of agreement for support of the project
- Including language about funding could negatively affect support for the overall project. We should discuss the issue with the Boards/Council and ask that the municipality's committee be allowed to seek outside funding for the project.
- We liked the idea of the Boards & Council making a resolution of support and authorizing managers to sign the agreement on their behalf.
  - We should keep copies of the meeting minutes with the signed document.

Nicole will revise the agreement and email out for everyone's review.

Steve Musica volunteered to bring the agreement to Richmond.

We discussed brainstorming for the "benefits document" to go to the Boards/Council with (economic, transportation, carbon footprint, health, recreation, multi-modal, nature, history, etc.). Group thought we should use what others (Kennebec River Rail Trail, Downeast Sunrise Trail, Rail Conservancy) have already done. No one volunteered to find this information.

We discussed getting MDOT and DOC involved. Nicole will call Dan Stewart and Katrina will call Dave Rocque. We should start making contact with them on a regular basis (monthly).

We discussed need for mapping. Ben Long will talk with Myshraal Shepard, an intern who just did some work for the Cathance River Education Alliance. Katrina will try to contact Alice Elliot who is a Richmond Resident who works for Colby College's GIS Lab. Nicole will contact Steve Walker about creating a base file for us to work with.

### **To-Do for the next meeting:**

- **Work on the Memorandum of Agreement**
- **Trail Benefits**
  - **Everyone, please send me your thoughts.**
- **Plan for how Boards/Council are going to be approached.**
- **Mapping -**
  - **Check with contacts mentioned above.**

8/27/08 nb