

# HARDWICK TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING

## MINUTES

Monday, April 11, 2022

5:30 pm meeting - VIRTUAL Format

Present: Levi Bourne, Jon Tuthill, Norma Spaulding, Wayne & Lenore Renaud, Alison Blackwell, Helen Beattie

1. Adopt/Amend Minutes of March 7 Meeting

(<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L4v99mgi3tmQ1b3FIKRLwuuDWpGsbBW82OqDbZXxals/edit>)

- Norma S. moved to approve, seconded by Lenore, approved unanimously

2. Updates:

VOREC grant -

- \$200,000 awarded - focused on replacing the swinging bridge and plans for a park to serve as a recreational hub

Banner -

- awaiting the final

Storywalk

- Diane Grenkow plans on starting up the storywalk soon. Needs to find a source for signage. Helen will work with her on this.

Bike parts plan -

- Jake Lester (who ran the bike technician program) is working with his dad to pick up all parts in May and recycle.

Signage -

- Hold up at Staples - in process

Bike Rodeo -

- Approval on dates/use of parking lot by Hazen principal for June 18, 25 or 26 (thinking the 25th with a rain date of the 26th might be best?). Awaiting word from Alex McAndrew & Ella (guest pros). School age children target audience. Bevin point person for program development. John Tuthill and Levi Bourne offered help with this event. Possible collaboration with library re: biking theme.

Art scavenger hunt event- Need to meet with art teachers before year end.

3. Financials: Norma Spaulding

- Flagged minimal balance of budgeted operating budget. Will tap capital budget if necessary to cover costs of summer maintenance (eg seeds)

4. Kiwanis Adopt a Road invitation (see second page)
  - Lenore motioned to support the Kiwanis “Adopt a Road invitation”, partnering with the Hazen Tennis/Pickleball group to tend to North Main Street from Hazen up to the dirt road (and beyond). Seconded by Norma & passed unanimously. Will ask Tod if we can use their dumpster. Helen will contact Sherry Lussier to confirm.
5. Vermont Trails & Greenways Council membership (Monday, May 16th from 10am to noon)
  - Helen will check with Eric (currently listed as member) to confirm continued membership (or recruit accordingly)
6. Hazen Wellness Fair (April 15 9-12)
  - No volunteer availability for this event - perhaps in the future.
7. LVRT & VOREC & “Bikes for All” - role of the Hardwick Trails Committee?
  - LVRT anticipates opening after Nov. 1 contractor completion date. Asking that trails not be used until then. Extensive work on LVRT’s part to address signage, maintenance, etc. Connector trail improvement and signage will be our priority. Possible single track option.
  - “Bikes for All” - collaboration with Jeudevine library who is willing to loan bikes if the HTC can purchase/maintain these bikes. Will form joint committee to create a plan and assess possibility of stocking only beginner bikes for this summer season. Due to possible library construction (soon to go out to bid), consideration of locating the rack across the street at the town offices was discussed. Possible \$6,000 available to launch/support the bike purchase task - to be confirmed. Encouraging news of strong possibility of Bike Technician Hazen program launch this coming fall, creating a cadre of young people who can potentially help with loaner maintenance. John Tuthill volunteered to be involved in the library/HTC effort. Unanimous support for “Bikes for All” as a component of the Trails committee work.
8. Beth LeCours: Vermont Art Educator of the Year. Wiesen Proposal: a gift (certificate to Positive Pie?) and a note for all the years she has made the Pumpkin Walk possible.
  - Lenore purchasing \$50 gift certificate - will work with Wiesens when they return to hand deliver to Beth.
9. Other business
  - Concern about logging damage on the trails. Will ask Eric to walk them with Meghan to review damage and goal of repair plan completion before the end of the school year.
  - Alison introduced the concept of a “poop flinger” option to plastic bags that are being left on the trails. All agreed that this is a long standing problem. She will do further research for discussion at our next meeting.

- Lenore will research the July coin drop date for our next meeting. Need to apply for date for the following year.
- Bird walks are scheduled each Saturday in May, starting at 7:00 AM at the trailhead.

10. Adjourn

- Next meeting May 2 (Helen will not attend)