

## Springfield Trails & Rural Economy Committee Meeting

April 28th, 2022

5:30 PM

Town Offices Meeting Room

**Call to Order**— The meeting was called to order at 5:45.

**Roll Call**— Present were Jim Fogg (presiding), Bettina McCrady, Barbara Schultz, Jeff Mobus (by invitation) and Chuck Gregory.

**Announcements**— Jim Fogg showed pictures of invasive bittersweet of more than 8 inches in diameter which were found and severed on Litchfield Street. Jeff Mobus announced that John Bond had secured funding for a major piece of artwork for the town.

**Additions to Agenda**— There were no additions to the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes of 2/24/ 22 and 3/24/22**— The minutes were approved as submitted (McCrady/Gregory)

### **Old business:**

—The I-91 repair plan— moved to defer it to the next meeting (Gregory/McCrady).  
Passed unanimously.

— VOREC grant project updates for Hartness Park, Toonerville Trail Kiosk and additional locations— Jim said that we need to reactivate our website database system to recruit volunteers for the Toonerville Trail 5km walk/run. Bettina asked if there are people already in mind for the various positions. Law enforcement will not be available through the town due to shortages. Bettina McCrady will be in charge of promotion and Jim Fogg will be in charge of trail marking. Jim said he has some free time for working on it, but more help is needed. All funding is in place. Chris Merrill, the Parks and Recreation director, is occupied at present with setting up the baseball programs and will be freed up after June 11th. Jim said he will be dealing with Chris. Barbara provided to all the updated progress spreadsheet on the approved VOREC projects. Barbara asked if Tree Farm Campground will be cooperating. Jim said they have every right to. If there is no route between Muckcross and Hartness Park via Tree Farm Campground the 5k would use Muckcross as the terminus of the event.

Barbara began reviewing the VOREC summary. **Historical data:** The Historical society has not been approached. Bettina said she will deal with Jim Fogg's dad or John Robison and Chris Merrill to create markers to be mounted on sizable (minimum 4x4") posts. Bettina will pursue this. **Digital trail maps:** They have been developed and a brochure designed and printed.

Remaining work: Send a digital copy to the State of Vermont and ensure copies are available at public events. **Toonerville Trail website:** The public website has been developed and the digital maps uploaded. Remaining work: Create audio snippets. Upload the brochure and digital audio snippets to the website. The anniversary race is being organized. **Promotional materials** need to be developed yet to integrate with the map, the brochure and the website. **Town funding of \$2,000 for trail maintenance:** \$3,300 has been set aside for benches, kiosks and picnic tables.

**Hartness Park maintenance of existing trails** is ongoing. **Removal of downed trees in**

**Hartness Park:** Two vistas remain to be cleared; we need to see whether the work can be done by the Vocational-Technical Center. **Installation of benches, kiosks and picnic tables on**

**Toonerville Trail and Hartness Park:** Locations have been identified, structures remain to be installed. Barbara provided an overhead view of possible siting of two picnic tables and/or benches near the Nortrax terminus of the Toonerville trail. Bettina suggested that Barbara

arrange with John Bond and John Robison to visit the site. Jim Fog arranged with Barbara to visit the site on April 29th. **Installation of mileage markers, directional information and historic information signs.** Work remaining: identify locations, informational content, and design, order and install the plaques. **Invasive species inventory of Toonerville Trail:** The inventory and management plan are complete. Remaining work: Develop and distribute a Request for Proposal, hire and supervise a contractor.

— RiseVT planting updates. Barbara reviewed the list of plants suggested for use by RiseVT. She mentioned she had approached Audubon Society for support; they will be in touch with her.

**New Business:** There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM (McCrary/Schultz).

The next meeting will be May 26th, 5:30 PM at the town offices meeting room

Agenda

Call to Order

Roll Call

Announcements

Old Business

New Business

Respectfully submitted,

chuck gregory, secretary