

Springfield Trails & Rural Economy Committee Meeting
June 23d, 2022
5:30 PM
Town Offices Meeting Room

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:3.8

Roll Call— Present were Jim Fog (presiding), John Bond, Barbara Schultz, Josie Hingston, Bettina McCrady and Chuck Gregory.

Approval of previous meeting's minutes— minutes were approved unanimously (Hingston/ Bond) with the correction that a letter of thanks be sent to the Edgar May Center. Announcements— Chuck Gregory announced that the two segments of sidewalk on Mineral Street would be joined, with possibilities for the extension of the Toonerville Trail to Springweather.

Old Business— Bettina gave an update on her acquisition of mulch and a tree gator (watering tank for constant hydration of a newly-planted tree). John Bond mentioned that there are some in storage at Public Works. there was discussion of watering the newly-planted tree donated by Mt. Ascutney Audubon Society. Barbara said she could do it Friday evening. Jim Fog said he do it Sunday morning (the 26th). She has prepared summaries of expenditures to be given to Jeff Mobus and/or Chris Merrill. She reported that John Harmer had all his light equipment stolen— everything that was easily portable. There was discussion of whether there should be a fall planting of bulbs.

Barbara Schultz suggested sending an announcement to the Springfield Reporter and the Shopper about the installation of new benches and plantings. She will send a draft to the committee for editing.

There was discussion of the nature of 5k vs. 10k walk/race. An informal poll revealed the committee favored dealing with staging a 5k event at this time.

New Business—

—Determining the cost of posts for trail placards— It was determined to purchase five pressure-treated 12-foot 4x4's (to make five six-foot-long posts each for the Toonerville Trail and the Hartness Park trails) and one-half sheet of 3/4" pressure-treated plywood; ten mending plates (to mount the plywood to the posts); 3/8" x 1 1/2" bolts and nuts.

—Moved to have the September walk/run event be a 5k, with turnaround at Spencer Hollow Road (Bond/McCrady). Passed unanimously.

—Jim Fog suggested that committee members personally check out the presence of invasive species— notably wild parsnip, poison ivy and bittersweet— over the next week or so in order to determine the need for a work session. Barbara Schultz said she has been reaching out to possible contractors about this.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 PM.

The next meeting will be July 28th, 5:30 PM at the town offices meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,

chuck gregory, secretary