

APPROVED MINUTES
SPRINGFIELD TRAILS AND RURAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE MEETING
October 27th, 2022
Town Offices
5:30 PM

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:40.

Roll Call: Present were Josie Hingston, Barbara Schultz (presiding), Chuck Gregory, John Bond, Bettina McCrady and Kristi Morris (ex officio).

Announcements: Barbara Schultz announced the new benches and picnic tables are now installed at Hartness Park and that the access gate to the water tower in Hartness Park has been fixed. John Bond announced it is now budget time and that we should submit requests at this time to there Select Board

Approval of minutes of 9/8/22 and 9/29/22: The minutes of 9/8 were approved unanimously (Hingsotn/Bond) with the change of the next meeting date to 9/29. The minutes of 9/29/22 were approved unanimously (Hingston/Gregory) with the correction of, “Invasives management contractor: in progress” and, “Invasives management inventory: done.”

Old Business—

The status of:

—Historic snippet/recording production— Chuck Gregory said he had not contacted either the Historical Society or the Tech Center for audio recordings

—Historic snippet/recording research/script— Chuck provided a list of possible topics for QR posts and invited the others to do the same.

—Trailhead kiosk upgrade— Three of the four are installed. John Bond asked if the funding to install the last of the four kiosks was going to be a financial challenge given the deadline of the VOREC expenditure.

—Remaining trailhead kiosk installation— The installation problem at the water tower— grading, anchoring and location— is still active. One proposal to do the work has been received; a second is awaited. The kiosk is ready and waiting. Barbara said she has drawn a map for the installation. Barbara asked if there are plans to post new literature in the kiosk at the Nortrax trailhead. There is also a need for literature update at the Young’s Road kiosk. Bettina McCrady will arrange for acquisition of maps and literature of the proper sizes for all.

—Bench installation— John reported all the benches are installed.

—Invasives management inventory— the inventory is done and the contractor has been engaged.

—Trail signage plaques— There was discussion of location of posts on the Toonerville Trail. There were five suggested locations, with discussion of possibly having others. John suggested the committee visit the possible sites of the posts.

—Website development/hosting— chuck will report on the possibility of the town hosting the QR posts’ files (audio and written) and the photos and literature

of the Toonerville Trail flyers, and the River Valley Technical Center's ability to do the audio recording.

Approval of annual report— Moved that the annual report be approved subject to the approval of the chair. Failed for lack of a second. The consensus of the group was to edit it between now and the November meeting. John suggested the committee explore the description of the committee's original charge to reflect the change in emphasis on development of the rural economy. Kristi Morris stated that all committees' duties are reviewed every five years by the Select Board.

New Business

— The problem of controlled access to the Water Tower entrance to the Hartness Park trails— John reported that the access gate needs to be opened and closed on a regular schedule; if left open after hours, the locale becomes a magnet for problematic visitors (teen partiers, etc.).

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 PM (Hingston/Bond).

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 17th , at 5:30 PM at the town offices

The agenda will include:

Old Business: Control of access to Hartness Park at the water tower entrance
Approval of annual report
Webpage report

New business:

- Use of the water tower parking lot at Hartness Park
- Finalize the list of VOREC information signs to be created
- Input into next year's budget

Respectfully submitted,

chuck gregory, secretary