

Approved minutes  
ST&RE Committee Meeting  
December 15, 2022  
5:30 PM  
Town Offices Meeting Room

**Call to Order**— The meeting was called to order at 5:38 PM.

**Roll Call**—Present were Town Manager Jeff Mobus (by invitation), Jim Fog (presiding), Barbara Schultz, Chuck Gregory, Bettina McCrady, Josie Hingston and John Bond.

**Announcements**— Chuck Gregory announced requests for the town budget should be put under new business. John Bond announced the last kiosk has been installed.

**Approval of minutes of 11/17/22**— Moved to approved the minutes of 11/17/22 (Schultz/Bond). Passed unanimously,

**Old business:**

—**QR posts on Toonerville Trail**— Bettina reported she did audio recordings of the Historical Society material usable for six sites, and they can be loaded onto the town website and printed up for mounting with with QR codes on the existing signposts. Locations, content, sign type, text/recodrding and inclusion of picture for 13 sites were posited:

1. Toonerville Trolley: 1927 flood and Corliss tourist stop— at Charlestown Road kiosk
2. 1927 flood and Corliss tourist stop location —a freestanding plaque possibly near Charlestown Road trailhead
3. Former footbridge to Muckcross— at known historic location
4. First dam in Springfield— at site of Gould's Mills dam
5. Gould's Mills/ Iron bridge— location to be determined
6. Muckcross State Park entrance— at or near entrance
7. Geological separation of proto-Europe and porto-north America— opposite the geological evidence
8. Electric railway terminal & re-directing the river— near the Charlestown Road trailhead
9. Young's Road— at Hoyt's Landing kiosk
10. Dell Road Kiosk—

The following locations were designated; materials have to be developed:

11. Hartness Park Water Tower kiosk
12. Hartness Park Ski Jump
13. Hartness Park Summer Street gate

Jim suggested that Bettina research Native Americans' historical presence in the area and create the post.

**Access to Hartness Park via water tower gate**— John Bond reviewed his duscussions with Parks and Recreation and the Public Works departments, in which it was determined that the water tower access was the best possible one for the Hartness Park trails. Jim Fog said he would take up the matter of opening and closing the water tower access gate with the Parks and Recreation Director of the head of the Public Works Department.

**New business:**

—**Toonerville Trail buffer restoration planting**— Barbara Schultz said that the invasive plant work has been finished. New plants authorized by law will be introduced. Motion to work to involve BRAT in the buffer zone planting and invasive species removal (Hingston/Bond). Passed unanimously Barbara Schultz will communicate with BRAT’s Kelly Stettner.

—**Request for next year’s budget**— Jim Fog said that as a member of the Budget Committee we are in a financial crisis due to inflation and cuts have to be made across the board. As a result, our budget goes down from \$25,000 to \$20,000, but because our funds have been dedicated, the funding of the committee’s work is protected. Town Manager Jeff Mobus described some of the price and cost hikes the town is facing and explained some of the intricacies of obtaining and applying available funding. John Bond reminded the committee of its major priority is maintenance and that we need to “tighten up our financial game,” and that discussions with the Town Manager on funding needs to be ongoing. Jim added that expansion is part of our mission as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 26th at 5:30 PM at the town offices. The agenda will include:

ST&RE Committee Meeting  
January 26th, 2022  
5:30 PM  
Town Offices Meeting Room

Call to Order

Roll Call

Announcements

Old Business

—update on QR post development

— update on liaison with Black River Action Team

—update on water tower gate access to Hartness Park

New Business

— to be announced

Respectfully submitted,

chuck gregory, secretary