

Sunrise Trail Coalition Meeting
February 15, 2011, 4:00 P.M.
The Maine Grind 192 Maine St. Ellsworth



Minutes

1. Welcome and sign-in

Attending: Peter Knowles, Charlie Corliss, Dave Wood, Stephen Rees, Jim Fisher, Jef Fitzgerald, Tony Barrett, Polly Ceckler, Bill Cherry, Maggie Warren, Misha Mytar, Tim Tunney, Sally Jacobs, Carol Cuddy, Sandra Johnson, Bill Ceckler

2. Approval of January Meeting Minutes

- Dave Wood – correction for expense for Porta Potty
- Correct spelling of Ian Strout to Ian Staub

3. Approval of Treasurer's Report

- No changes to the budget since the last report other than new membership fees.
- Balance = \$14,205.71
- Grants = \$6,688.21

4. Manager's Report

- Grooming is going well
- Franklin Selectmen
 - Concerned that groomers are pulling snow out into the road.
 - This is difficult to avoid.
 - Snowmobiles also pull snow into the road
- Had a few land owner complaints
 - Cherryfield
 - Night activity
 - Failure to stop at stop signs at road crossings; The wardens have given out several tickets
 - Right of way sometimes unclear
 - Using four way stop signs
 - Caution Crossing signs posted for all crossings
 - Some snowmobilers are concerned about the quality of the grooming
- Trail is groomed all the way to Brewer now
- Equipment is all working correctly now.
- Winter Maintenance
 - Charlie thanked several groups that are plowing parking areas
 - He will send me a list for the newsletter and/or website

5. Moosehorn Park – Extending Trail north to Calais

- a. Bill Kolodnicki, Refuge Manager is interested in planning snowmobile routes
- b. May also be willing to open up some of the roads for summer and fall use
- c. Seeking ideas for how to proceed with this discussion
- d. Identify possible right of way – possibly in an ECG study done with WCCOG

- e. Tony noted that the Ice House Road through the Moosehorn Refuge may be available for bicycles (need to verify this)
 - f. ATV's are restricted. There is a short section between Edmunds road and the store in Whiting that they can use.
6. Signage Committee Report and Discussion: Sally Jacobs, Steve Rees
- a. Where does this stand?
 - i. Stephen Rees reported that the committee made some changes to the permit application and policy document last fall
 - b. Steps to completion of the policy
 - i. MaineDOC policy for free signage changed our emphasis to kiosk signs
 - ii. STC Joined Ellsworth and Machias Chambers of Commerce
 - iii. We can circulate the permit form to the chambers
 - iv. **ACTION:** Jim will send a website link to the Ellsworth and Machias Chambers and request feedback.
 - c. Kiosk in Machias is ready, Washington Junction will be ready in the spring.
 - d. Discussion was raised as to whether businesses need to be members to post a sign – this will be taken up by committee
 - i. We may not legally be permitted to require a membership
 - ii. Might promote voluntary membership on the form- check off box
7. Bangor Hydro Electric activities – Bill Cherry, Steve Rees, Charlie Corliss
- a. Where are they?
 - i. Tree cutting started at Schoodic and is moving eastward
 - ii. Chipping should be completed 2/16/11
 - iii. Needed to plow some of the trail to move equipment on the sides. Did not plow all the way to the ground.
 - iv. Rte 183 to west of Schoodic will be done this week
 - v. Heading to Steuben from Route 183 now. Working fast.
 - b. Have there been problems on the trail?
 - i. No significant problems
 - ii. Communicating daily with Charlie Corliss
 - iii. Signage is all up
 - iv. Some posts were removed. They will be replaced when possible.
 - v. Using flaggers and escort vehicles – most snowmobilers have been respecting the process.
 - c. Mitigation lands – Stephen Rees
 - i. Thanks to Bill Cherry, Charlie and Misha in identifying the mitigation parcels
 - ii. Steve Sloan at Bangor Hydro has been very supportive
 - iii. Restrictions will not be recorded on these parcels
 - iv. Manning Property – Route 183
 - v. Gay-Frost Property – Route 1 Cherryfield-Herrington Road
8. Address Lists: Peter and Sally Jacobs
- a. Is everything working?
 - b. Peter Knowles has email contracts on Constant Contact

- c. The postal addresses may still need merging and purging
- d. Peter will provide a flat file list to Jim Fisher and/or Bill Ceckler for printing newsletter mailing labels.

9. Picnic Areas on the trail

- a. Washington Junction
 - i. Has a porta-potty, but need to sustain maintenance
 - ii. Will have an information kiosk this spring
- b. Schoodic Bog
 - i. West End – not idea, not much room off the trail
- c. Route 183 Sullivan
 - i. Might have a privy
- d. Township 7 – 1000 Road – Turnout area exists Milepost 23.5
- e. Cherryfield - beside the Narraguagus Bridge Milepost 29.75
- f. Whitneyville – Machias River Milepost 55 east of the bridge
- g. Machias – on Causeway near Schoppee Farms There is already a table further east
 - i. Includes an Information Kiosk
- h. East Machias – Downeast Salmon Federation Milepost 62.5
 - i. Archibald's is located there.
- i. Milepost 67 on East Machias River
- j. Milepost 71 in East Machias – trail to Rocky Lake Unit intersection
- k. Milepost 77 to 78 – Cathance Stream area
- l. Milepost 80.25 – ???
- m. Ayers Junction
 - i. Good site for a privy
 - ii. Information Kiosk
- n. Charlie will put these on a map and add photographs
- o. Next month is probably time to start

10. Outhouses and litter

- a. Misha and Tim will create a budget for construction and maintenance for facilities
- b. Litter
 - i. So far, litter has not been a problem
 - ii. Snowmobile clubs are putting out litter baskets and maintaining them

11. Capital Planning Misha Mytar

- a. Misha will work with Tim Tunney (Chairman) and our finance committee for capital planning
- b. We might be able to apply for Outdoor Heritage Fund support
- c. Recreational Trail Funding is in peril right now due to budget cuts
- d. A counter on the trail would help to measure daily levels of use

12. Joe Mc Brine's rescue sled

- a. Bill reported that the purchase papers have been processed

- b. Yamaha has a grant program – but have never given an award to a law enforcement agency
- c. Thanks to Friend and Friend who helped put together a proposal

13. News letter

- a. Jim handed around a draft newsletter.
- b. Maggie will proof read it.
- c. Bill - may add a short article on the Cherryfield benefit ride
- d. Need new logo for Camden National Bank (done)

14. Discussion of membership rates

- a. These rates are very low in comparison to other trails
- b. Now that the trail is complete - -would people pay more
- c. We need to demonstrate the benefits of membership
- d. Businesses
 - i. mention on Website with links
- e. Individual
 - i. Support for trail
 - ii. Support for collaboration with other organizations
- f. Club membership
 - i. Mention on website – thank you for their support

15. RC& D Support

- a. Seeking Organizational support (secretarial services and record keeping)
 - i. Note-Dave Wood will be stepping down as treasure
- b. Seeking help with funding for Rest Areas and Outhouses etc
 - i. Will look for partners for building or renting outhouses
 - ii. Would business like to be outhouse sponsors
- c. Funding for a booklet with list of amenities and support businesses and activities along trail
- d. Sally and Charlie will attend the RC&D Meeting - Thursday, February 24 9:30 AM Cherryfield

16. Kiosks

- a. Ayres Junction
 - i. Washington County Jail crew has materials to build
- b. Washington Junction
 - i. Not sure yet who will build this
- c. Other

17. T-Shirts

- a. Tracking has been a bit loose
- b. Need to identify
 - i. Production costs
 - ii. Sales revenues
 - iii. Cost of gifts to supporters

18. Charlie requested funds to purchase a storage cabinet for STC materials
 - a. STC discussed the need
 - b. STC Approved for purchase using grant funds

19. Trail Mapping Project – Misha
 - a. Center for Community GIS – Farmington, Maine
 - b. Working on a new website – www.mainetrailfinder.com
 - c. DEST coordinates and information have been provided to CCGIS for inclusion on their website

20. Tony Barrett
 - a. This year's New England Trail Council meeting will be in Connecticut on April 30
 - b. Friday There will be a 30 mile ride from Yale University to Simsbury

21. Next meeting
 - a. March 22 4:00 PM Helen's Machias
 - b. April 26 4:00 PM The Grind, Ellsworth

22. Adjournment at 5:55 PM