

Sunrise Trail Coalition Meeting
5/12/2015
Cherryfield

Attending: Charlie Corliss, Steven Rees, Ian Staub, Charlie Harrington, Bill Ceckler, Jim Fisher, Ray Archer,
Charlie Robinson, Gerry Nasberg

Minutes – Approved as submitted

Presidents Report

- East Coast Greenway
 - o Bangor Waterfront has been added to the East Coast Greenway
 - o Stephen will be attending the opening
 - o Re-instituted the Maine ECG Committee
 - o Held a meeting in Augusta and met with Patrick Adams
 - o Held a conference call as well
- Machias Revitalization Committee
 - o Completing railroad station renewal project
 - o STC has not been invited to participate in the project thus far
 - o We may be able to divert our funds to a different project
 - o Fitness in the park program – will be putting out bike racks with public bikes
 - o Building a deck on the backside of the railroad station
 - Nate Moulton has informally approved the deck being in the MaineDOT ROW
- DART Met in Machias last month – Stephen attended
 - o Alvion Kimball is current President
 - o Crystal Hitchings is providing staffing support for DART
- Discussion about extending the trail from Ayers Junction to St Stephens – trail from Acadia National Park to Bay of Fundy Park
 - o Bob Poirier, Manager of the TransCanada Trail – is looking at options for a trail or linear park across Canada
 - o Suggest holding a joint meeting in Calais
 - o People to invite
 - Representative of Moosehorn Wildlife Refuge
 - Representative of Calais City – Recreation Department Cathy Mazuchelli
 - Representative of Acadia National Park
 - Representative of DART
 - Legislators – would be required if rail removal is part of the solution and in any case for funding.
 - o Alternative Routes
 - Rail to Trail Conversion
 - Charlotte Road
 - Baring Road
 - Snowmobile Trails

- Bill Ceckler noted that there is a dirt road that crosses the northern part of the refuge that would serve well as a trail
- Bill noted that there are some good roads for bicycles, there are some dangerous sections
- Stephen – suggest we get and estimate for upgrading the

Treasurer's Report

- See attached
- Paid Ellsworth Chamber Dues
 - Dinner planned – does anyone want to attend?

Reports of Vehicles on the trail

- Concern about why people are using cars on the trail
- Rumors are that drugs runners are using the trail
- Want law enforcement, but also concerned about running patrol cars on the trail

Project Proposals

- Franklin – Ian Staub
 - Town is interested in purchasing a house and merging that with another lot to create another veterans park
 - The back side of the property could have trail amenities like a picnic table
 - Would need to identify parking for the site
 - Veterans club is fund raising for this project
 - Owner is asking for \$50,000. Veterans Club wants to pay \$35,000
- Cherryfield – Stephen
 - Met with Kathy Upton about the train depot
 - Discussed how to connect the rail station to the trail and the Bold Coast Scenic Byway
 - They have a grant to create a new foundation at the current station
 - They might also spin the building to face the road
 - New roof was installed
 - The train depot can become a tourism information center serving the Bold Coast Byway, Black Woods Byway, Ice Age Trail, etc.
 - Propose that funds that were dedicated to the train depot be used instead in Cherryfield. Add picnic tables, etc.
 - Need to determine whether funds can be moved to this project

Annual Chamber Dinner – May 21st

- Big Katz (White Birches)
- Fee for dinner \$40
- Pat's Pizza will be represented – Sunrise Trail will not send anyone to the dinner

Manager's Report – Charlie Corliss

- Trail held up well through the winter
- Three washouts

- Muckleberry Pond
- Jonesboro
- Some concerns about impolite use
 - Hot-rodding
 - Racing engines
 - Loud Mufflers
- Maintenance
 - Waiting to hear if Hanscomb's wants to do the grading work – would go to bid otherwise
 - Jim Robinson will do the mowing again this year
 - General Maintenance – contracting company will continue
- Questions
 - Funding
- Parking
 - Downeast Coastal Conservancy will be building a parking lot in Whitneyville west of Route 1A
 - This will provide access to their hiking trails
- Questions
 - What is happening on the Route 183 Parcel? Don't know.
 - Was the campsite used during the winter? No
 - Campsite – is getting inquiries for memorial day
 - There are six sites now
 - You could fit more sites? Yes
 - We should purchase six more tables.
 - The group that would build them free – but cannot until the fall
 - Parking at the Blueberry factory? Does not appear to be much space.
 - Need to check with Nate Moulton about right of way
 - Need to negotiate with the new factory owners about access
- Charlie – talking with Sunrise Opportunities about projects their staff/clients can help
- Charlie – held a combined meeting with the ATV clubs to create regional ATV and Snowmobile maps
 - Submitted grant proposal to DART - \$5,000 (for 5,000 maps)
 - GIS Contractor has been hired to create the map (40 hours / \$1,000)
 - Will sell approximately 100 advertisements on the back
 - Does the coalition want to purchase a \$50 advertisement?
 - Board approved purchasing two \$50 advertisements (ATV and Snowmobile) without dissent.
 - Charlie is also creating club maps for each club area.
 - Ray is helping put this together a numbering system

Meeting

June 16th, 2015 2:00 – 4:00 PM – Helen's Restaurant, Machias