

**RAIL TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
Wednesday, June 24, 2015**

PRESENT: Mike Retzky – Chairman, Gerry Koss – Vice Chairman, John Bulian, James Goldstein, Dmitry Gorenburg, Patty Carey

ABSENT: Ed Olsen

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Chairman Mike Retzky at the Charles River Room at PSAB.

- 1. Minutes of Meeting of May 27, 2015:** Mr. Bulian made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gorenburg. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- 2. Update – Current Construction Project:** Ms. Carey reported that the initial construction project was completed. As Engineering is preparing to put the bid out for the second phase, Ms. Carey suggested that the next meeting be held on the actual trail, so that a set of questions related to the next phase can be developed, to insure important aspects are handled in the second phase, or reviewed to be added to the project.
- 3. Discussion – Draft Regulations:** Mr. Goldstein provided an updated draft, based on the discussions at the prior meeting. He incorporated comments that had been received from Fire Chief Dennis Condon and Conservation Director Matt Varrell. Mr. Bulian appreciated the simplicity. He suggested that abutters be sent a note, highlighting the project, but also noting concerns, including that there was no dumping of yard waste or debris from abutting properties onto the rail trail. Mr. Koss noted that there seemed to be some regulations that were simple, and others that were enforceable and that they be shown in different formats, with lengthier text on the website and briefer text on signs. Mr. Bulian asked that signs with enforcement be reviewed with the Police Department to insure they could be acted upon. Mr. Goldstein's draft had brief bolded text, which he suggested for signs, followed by explanatory information which could be included on the website. Mr. Retzky stated that issues will likely be similar to those seen on other trails. He suggested that the signs include a contact number to assist with enforcement. Mr. Gorenburg noted that kiosks at trail heads could include some information, including awareness of ticks, fire prevention, and protection of wildlife (turtles). A map and regulations would also be posted. Ms. Carey said that kiosks could be made or ready-made ones could be purchased. There are many versions, including 3 sided styles. Mr. Bulian also suggested sending the final regulations to other groups to post on their websites, including BCRTA. Ms. Carey suggested that the next draft of regulations be sent to the Police Department, Fire Department, and Town Manager for review and input. The committee will research different types of signs and kiosks.
- 4. Discussion – Possible Naming of Rail Trail:** Ms. Carey noted that the High School Rail Trail Club had started a process of gathering options for names for the rail trail. It was suggested that they send

suggestions to the Rail Trail Advisory Committee who could determine whether to have a process for developing alternate names and then make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen under their naming policy. Mr. Bulian noted that there might not be a need to change the current name from Bay Colony Rail Trail, and Mr. Retzky noted that funds had been raised under that name. Mr. Goldstein asked about the process, so that if there were to be a change in name, it would be helpful to know when there is a “grand opening” in the later fall, after construction. Ms. Carey believes that the name *Bay Colony Rail Trail* does not need approval from the Board of Selectmen, but she will confirm that with the Town Manager. Mr. Retzky stated that the committee should be prepared to meet with the Selectmen at their first meeting in September so that a vote could be taken at the second meeting in September, if needed.

- 5. Summer Meeting Schedule:** The next meeting will begin at 6:30 PM and be on the Rail Trail. The committee will meet in the DCR parking lot at Red Wing Bay on Fisher Street. In case of rain, the meeting will still be held at PSAB.

Mr. Bulian made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Gorenburg. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia M. Carey, Ex-Officio Member