

Thompson Trails Committee MINUTES October 2, 2017, Thompson Town Hall

In attendance: Karen Durlach, John Kochinkas, Mike Lajeunesse, Lucille Langlois, Brian Loffredo, Charlie Obert, David Ostrowski; Ken Butkiewicz; The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. at the Thompson Town Hall. Lucille volunteered to be moderator. Brian made a motion, seconded by Charlie, to accept the minutes of August 7, 2017; motion carried.

Correspondence:

- David Barber at Blackstone Cons. Com. meeting on SNETT over Blackstone Canal
- invitation to attend economic development workshop 10/18/17
- request to upgrade Wikipedia entry about Thompson section of Air Line trail (Charlie & Karen to address)
- emails about no grant money for trails in state budget
- information received about an available Ithiel Town covered bridge built for research and in storage in NH; Charlie to find contact person & get more specifics.

Mike made a motion, seconded by Lucille to pursue acquisition of Ithiel Town covered bridge. Motion approved.

Finances: additional sponsor contributions received for Turkey Trot

Volunteer Tracking sheets:

Karen submitted a tally of volunteer hours to TLGV for 10/1/16-9/30/17. She requested everyone keep better track of their time with dates and name/description of project. She will try to develop a better system for tracking in Excel

Citizen's Comments/Reports from neighboring towns:

- Ken Butkiewicz, Dudley, reported on additional 1-mile loop trail added to the Quinebaug Rail Trail/Bikeway; no answer yet from NPS on grant application for an ADA loop trail

DEEP Grant:

Karen submitted tool list to several suppliers and has not received any quotes back. Brian presented research on vehicle. **Mike made a motion, seconded by Charlie to purchase a new Kubota model RTV500-H Kubota Utility Vehicle, with necessary options, paying up to \$10,255.** Brian to request a firm quote from Ahearn Equipment in Spencer, MA that we can submit to DEEP for grant funds.

Events

- Community Day, Sept 24: attended by John, Charlie Lucille
- Walktober: John will lead Oct. 7 West Thompson Dam Orange Trail 8-mile hike from Cheney Rd. and Oct.28 Tri-State Trail hike
- Turkey Trot November 12, 2017: Karen will ask Rec Dpt. about what volunteers needed for Trot

Maps, web, etc.

- new map from NECCOG used at Community Day
- Karen asked for help for next stage on maps; Charlie will consult
- John reported on Facebook activity
- John & Brian replacing Air Line Trail maps at kiosks as needed

CT Trail Census:

Charlie & volunteers did Sept. intercept census; counter calibration needs doing

Trail Updates:

- Air Line: horseback riders need rocks moved for better access
- Discussion on safety & signs where trails cross roads, ie. 193

Other:

- Putnam now has a Trails Committee
- Ask for tool donations in next Selectmen's Update
- **Mike made a motion, seconded by Charlie, to allow chairperson to authorize up to \$200 for unexpected opportunities/expenses. Motion carried.**

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: Monday, November 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m., location to be announced.

Lucille made a motion, seconded by Mike, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 8:44pm.