

Thompson Trails Committee MINUTES February 5, 2018, Thompson Town Hall

In attendance: Karen Durlach, John Kochinkas, Mike Lajeunesse, Lucille Langlois, Brian Loffredo, Charlie Obert, David Ostrowski; David Barber, Ken Butkiewicz; The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Thompson Town Hall. Lucille volunteered to be moderator. Charlie made a motion, seconded by Brian to accept the minutes of December 4, 2017; all in favor.

Correspondence:

- letter from Dennis Blanchette concerning leafblowing prior to Turkey Trot
- invitation to hold TLGV Spring Outdoors event
- applications from Selectmen's office for Town of Thompson email addresses for committee members
- email concerning possibility of walking trail in Quinebaug on Lavalle parcel
- reminder of June CT Trails Day
- request for input for statewide Bike & Pedestrian Plan (Jim Larkin)

Finances: changes due to Turkey Trot & tool grant expenditures to come

Volunteer Tracking: new tracking sheet distributed

Citizen's Comments: Ken Butkiewicz reported on Quinebaug Rail Trail progress and possible bike route alternatives through Thompson

DEEP Grant: DEEP grant funds not received yet. Inventory list distributed of tools already acquired. (In locked storage at highway garage.) Tools to be labeled as Trails Committee property and sign-out sheets developed.

Events

- Turkey Trot 2018: needs volunteer on the event planning committee to take on Rob Paton's responsibilities; discussion on cancelling event if no one found by April meeting
- TLGV Spring Outdoors and June CT Trails Day: John deciding if he will lead an activity

Trail Updates

- John reported 4 trees down on Air Line between Sandham Rd and Rt 193
- At April meeting, schedule spring maintenance & goals
- schedule meeting to meet new Director of Public Works
- **Ithiel Town Bridge** Transport proved too expensive, with no clear placement plan and existing bridge barely meeting specifications needed to span Rt. 193. Discussion of seeking UCONN engineering design for abutments to cross Rt. 193, then building bridge to meet/exceed DOT specs.

Outreach Projects

- asked DEEP if they have staff qualified to edit Wikipedia entry for Thompson section of Air Line Trail
- Jim Larkin, NECCOG, updating maps with new 2106 LIDAR data

Reports from neighboring towns:

- Dave Barber reported on SNETT progress in Franklin
- Putnam Trails Committee has not met yet
- Pomfret has \$5.3 million grant for bridges & tunnels on Air Line Trail (Dave Barber will attend meeting in Pomfret Thurs. 2/8); when completed, that leaves only Mechanicsville gap in Air Line Trail

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: Monday, April 2, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Meeting adjourned 8:48 p.m.