

Thompson Trails Committee MINUTES October 1, 2018, Thompson Town Hall

In attendance: Karen Durlach, John Kochinskas, Mike Lajeunesse, Brian Loffredo, Charlie Obert: Ken Butkiewicz;

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. at the Thompson Town Hall.

Brian volunteered to moderate. Motion made to accept minutes of August 6, 2018. All in favor.

Correspondence:

- TLGV requested we submit VOLUNTEER HOURS for the year ending Sept 30, 2018; Karen needs data by 10/10 to compile
- Trail Census asked us to submit VOLUNTEER HOURS; Charlie will tally
- Brian returning forms to Walmart for credit for his VOLUNTEER HOURS; they will donate \$250
- request received for 2019 Trails Committee meeting dates;
they are **February 4, April 1, June 3, August 5, October 7, December 2**

Finances: Turkey Trot sponsorships still coming in; Kubota has been paid for; after the Turkey Trot income/expenses will be tallied (ready for February meeting)

Use Thompson ct.org email addresses for: Karen, Brian, Charlie; use John's fire dpt. address

Citizen Comments: Ken Butkiewicz reported the Quinebaug River Railtrail is open to the CT line; Ken has shared a draft of a letter to G&W; French River bridge design approved; decking to be ordered

Grants:

- Thompson Trails did not win a TLGV grant for the historical & cultural interpretive signage project; we asked for feedback
- Rotary Club is discussing whether they will contribute to the above project
- DEEP Recreational Trails Grant is due Oct. 31; still seeking a quote for an enclosed trailer for tools & equipment to submit for grant

Equipment: Tool list distributed. Every item has a number for identification, our name and distinctive blue paint markings. Karen working on a tracking sign-out sheet.

Events:

- Community Day Saturday Oct 6: John, Charlie, Mike, Brian will all be there part or all of event, with maps
- Walktober: John had to cancel his event; Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum hosting 2 talks at Great Train Wreck site (10/10 & 10/13)
- **Turkey Trot November 11, 2018:** Focus has been on sponsorships; committee has surpassed last year. Deadline is NOW for sponsors to get logos in for publicity and on shirts. Arrangements complete for porta potties, ambulance, permit from the rangers, anthem singers. John & Brian have set race course. Final Turkey Trot committee meeting **10/16**. VOLUNTEERS needed for day of: parking, registration, course marshals, etc.

Trail updates:

Air Line Trail

- Mounting blocks for horse riders installed at each end of bridge where Air Line Trail crosses over I395; positive feedback received already
- Tree blocking the trail near the condos taken care of. Charlie reported another small tree crossing trail.

- erosion in some areas reported
- John emphasized the town's side mower needed to help weed control
- waiting for Ted Suave, DEEP to approve style of steel benches
- Stone dust available: **Selectman Ken Beausoleil must complete paperwork for DEEP by Oct. 15**

• Mike reported on meeting of **Connecticut RC&D** he and Selectman Ken Beausoleil attended (Jeanne Davies, Executive Director). Goals of the Air Line Trail Master Plan for regional coordination distributed.

Mike made a motion, seconded by Charlie that the Thompson Trails Committee support the work of the Twelve Town Taskforce. All in favor.

• Selectman Ken Beausoleil asked Mike to work with UCONN engineering students on design for bridge over 193.

Trail Census:

- Thompson has collected about 20 of the requested 100 intercept surveys.
- Charlie will submit volunteer hour totals
- Counter is operational; Charlie checks periodically. We discussed again that it's in the wrong location.
- Funding needed to continue program (no longer in DEEP budget)

Motion by Charlie, seconded by Brian, to spend up to \$150 to reprint & laminate Great Train Wreck posters and new trail map.

Karen researching pricing of large Trails logo decals.

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: Monday, December 3, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

New agenda items: 2019 Goals, t-shirts, decals, web page changes

Meeting adjourned 8:53 p.m.