

Squannacook Greenways, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Attending:

Pete Carson, Peter Cunningham, Bruce Eason,
Ray Jackson, Tim Palmer, Bill Rideout,
Joan Wotkowicz

Status of ARPA funding

Bill discovered a mass.gov web page that explains how to collect earmark money. DCR is the state agency in charge of the money coming to us. Bill submitted an earmark form to the DCR Chief Financial Officer and cc'd Senator Cronin's office. A notice said to expect up to sixteen weeks to receive the money.

Bill had a large check poster printed so we can invite our legislators to a check presentation. Peter will reach out to the representatives and senators to find a date that works for them.

MassTrails grant application

We are requesting \$96,000 for phase three, Crosswinds to Bertozzi, to be built in Nov 2022-Mar 2023. Applications are due February 1. Joan has our application and attachments well underway and will send a draft to our whole Board of Directors for review.

Peter and Joan sent out ~15 requests for letters of support. The responses were very enthusiastic. Five letters are already in and the rest are due by January 21.

Joan also drafted a new Construction Specification for Phase 3 to include with the MassTrails attachments.

Bruce J. Anderson grant application

Applications are due February 14. We will request \$10K for phase 4, from Townsend Harbor to Crosswinds. Joan will start writing the application this week.

Community Foundation

CFNCM's Environmental Protection & Animal Welfare grant application forms should be available on January 24 and will be due February 25.

Construction update

James is still working by himself, removing soil to expose the sand base layer. When the ground freezes, he will drive a truck down the corridor to pick up ties. He plans to install the aggregate in March.

Abutter consultations

Bill contacted two of the three houses near Old Meetinghouse Road. Bill and Joan will visit the third house this weekend and request that they move their truck.

Bill will ask James about a potential fix for the huge puddle in the Harbor Church parking lot, and then approach the Townsend Historical Society.

Joan pointed out that Apple Meadow Hardware now owns the property of the former auto parts store on Railroad Street. Since the rail trail may extend in that direction in the future, she suggested we talk with Sam to make sure we keep a positive relationship.

Other events/publicity/outreach

Peter Cunningham will notify Jacob Vitali at the Lowell Sun about the check presentation event. We will keep it small, mostly for a photo op, and Bill will invite Joe Shank and the Townsend BOS. We plan to hold it behind Harbor Auto.

The Lowell Sun had an article about the rail trail last week, which Joan will share.

Financial report

Bill reported \$163,222.26 with the ARPA grant included.

A motion to approve \$56.12 expense for printing the large check was seconded and passed unanimously.

Review minutes

A motion to accept the minutes from our meeting on December 15, 2021 was seconded and approved unanimously.

Next Meeting

Squannacook Greenways will hold our next rail trail meeting on **Tuesday, February 1** at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Wotkowicz, Clerk

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