

SPRINGFIELD TRAILS, GREENWAYS, BYWAYS AND RURAL ECONOMY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE July 24th , 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were George McNaughton (presiding), Randy Gray, Hallie Whitcomb and Chuck Gregory. Present for the public was Walter Martone, selectman.

Old Business

1. The Minutes of the prior meeting were approved as submitted (Gregory/ Gray).
2. Review Master Maps prepared by Randy Gray including GPS Map Update: Randy Gray reported that he had submitted the map update and that he wanted to confer with the lister, Nicole Murray, to review the final details.
3. Discussion regarding permission to contact landowners from Town Manager and Selectboard regarding:
 - a. Gap in trail leading towards Muckross State Park George reported that Randy had given him the name of a landowner, Tom Yenerell, Town Manager about getting the project rolling. Tom said it was ready to roll.
 - b. Contact Lovejoy regarding Mineral Street Project. Hallie reported she had talked to Todd Priestley, who was amenable to allowing a mini-park development next to the Lovejoy property.
4. Follow-up Discussion regarding cars parking on sidewalks— **Hallie Whitcomb** will present Dick Andrews' pictures of violators to Town Manager Tom Yenerell.

New Business

5. Trail Maintenance Plan— George reported he has not yet come up with an outline draft. Walter Martone indicated he was very interested in the subject of maintenance of all trails in the town, and that funding is important. He said budget setting will probably start in November. He suggested this committee have its input ready by October. George McNaughton advised all that in September there will be elections of new officers for this group. Walter Martone asked if the committee would submit an annual report to the Select Board. **George McNaughton** will put it on next month's agenda.

6. Sketch of problematic portion of Mineral Street proposed bike/walking trail and measurements of turn-out. Chuck reported that he has not done the sketch for the turnout. Hallie reported someone on the Energy Committee told her there is no money at hand for further extending the Mineral Street sidewalk. Walter Martone said that might not be the case, since the town is always searching for grants.

7. Update on trail from Mineral Street to Park Street School Property— Randy reported the path behind the State Office Building is still present, but obscured at the uphill end. He said it is about a ten percent grade. George McNaughton reported that he'd discussed it with Bob Flint of SRDC, and that in George's opinion the Park Street School project is realized, the trail would be more likely . He asked Walter Martone's opinion about including it in the town's Tax Incentive Foundation applications.



29. *Mineral Street— Possible walking/biking trail extension behind the state office building. John Johnson of Public Works reported that minimum required width of street for vehicular traffic is 22'. The 300-foot segment at its narrowest is 25 feet of pavement and four feet of verge on the riverbank side. The present sidewalk which ends 250 feet southeast of that point is four feet wide.*

32. Walter explained that as April 1st is effectively the deadline for TIF applications, it would be better to hold off an application until next year. He said Springfield's position for receiving the funding is quite strong. Randy Gray said that it would take more than paving equipment to create the trail. George suggested sending the Mineral Street map to Bob Flint of SRDC and the Select Board, to keep them informed of its possible use as an alternative in extending the Toonerville Trail to North Springfield. George McNaughton asked Walter Martone if the vehicular lanes could be narrowed. Walter said he could not speak for the Select Board.

Chuck Gregory will provide George McNaughton with sketches and a description of how the present street width will facilitate an adjacent path with little re-engineering.

33. Such other matters needing timely action under the Committee's 5 Top Priorities— Hallie said that she would like to be able to continue with the group, but pressures and commitments oblige her to withdraw. She mentioned a possible replacement who has expressed interest. George advised Hallie to have her submit an application to Donna Hall. Hallie will submit a formal resignation to the Select Board and ask the contact to attend our August meeting. Randy Gray mentioned he might also have a replacement. Walter suggested asking Donna Hall, town administrative assistant, to publicize the vacancy.

Items for the Agenda for next month:

1. Discussion of the tree inventory to be presented by **Kelly Stettner**, with input from Town Planning Commission chair **Walter Wallace**.
2. Measurements of the lots to possibly be included in the mini-park on Mineral Street by **Chuck Gregory**.
3. **Hallie's** continued discussions with Moore and Hingston about extending hiking trails.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. (Whitcomb/Gregory)

Respectfully submitted,

chuck gregory, secretary