

STURBRIDGE TRAILS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES – July 13, 2023

LOCATION: Center School

VOTING ATTENDEES: Brandon Goodwin (BG), Fritz Reeve (FR), David Peterkin (DP) arrived 7:35, Richard Paradise (RP), Jennifer Scherer (JS)

ASSOCIATE ATTENDEES: Tom Chamberland

GUESTS:

RECORDED BY: Fritz Reeve, STC Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: 7:11 PM

Trail Counter Data:

- In June:
 - There were 5,379 total trail visitors based on Trafx counter data. This is a decrease of 1,709 visitors as compared to last month. This is a YTD increase of 61 visitors from this time last year. This data includes traffic from Leadmine, Riverlands, Heins Farm, Plimpton, and Long Pond trail heads.
 - The most visited property was Leadmine (Shattuck, Morgan, Pinelands) with 4,160 visitors, followed by Heins Farm with 535 visitors, Riverlands with 426 visitors, Long Pond with 214 visitors, and Plimpton with 44 visitors.

REVIEW of PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

- No minutes to review

BUDGET:

- Start of the fiscal year
- Budget includes funding for two CPC funded projects:
 - 1 & 9 River Road
 - Pedestrian Bridge
- BG motions to allocate \$250 to purchase 6 new locks. FR seconds the motion. Vote 4 – 0 to approve.

GRANTS:

- 2023 MassTrails grants being signed by state so STC can start to put projects out for bid.

TRAIL WORKDAYS/UPDATES:

- July 15
 - Long Pond:
 - Will have a DPW person on Saturday. Will work on the Long Pond Trail to regrade 150 ft trail section to reduce cross slope.
 - Need two people to rake
 - Heins Farm:
 - Spread gravel on Pond Loop west section
 - Leadmine Mtn:
 - Relocation/rock armoring (4-6 people)

- RTV, picks, shovels, pry bar, loppers, gloves, rock slings

TA UPDATE:

- BG to follow up on CPA agreement letter to CORPS for GTT-WVL

FROST UPDATE:

- Need to settle on transfer of ownership for Frost account

ConCom MEETINGS:

- No Update

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- None

OLD BUSINESS:

- June 23 – United Way Day of Caring (8am – 12 noon)
 - 10 people attended
 - Painted and sealed new woodshed. Also, stained Kiosk
- Old Conservation Agent office will be the Trails office. STC will be sharing that desk with the Veteran's Agent. TC and BG have master key and will be swapping out for new office.
- Got quotes for things STA can cover:
 - Riverlands brochure \$920
 - Leadmine/Heins brochure \$1250
 - American trail membership \$100
 - T-shirts \$400
- BG motions to submit a request to the STA for \$2,675 to fund updated brochures, memberships, and T-Shirts. TC seconds the motion. Vote 5 – 0 to approve.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The TLGV will be HETAPing a section of the GTT in Brimfield on July 26th
- CMRPA is coming to Heins Farm to review Pond Loop trail at 6 pm, on July 19th.
- Dave V and Dave P went out did some cleanup on the Burgess Elementary trail. BG will follow up to see if more is needed.
- TRJHS trail behind school to be marked for the sections on school property
- STC to think about some language that will describe wheel chair/stroller friendly trails. Which trails would fit wheelchair friendly definition?

NEXT MEETING: August 10, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURN: BG motions to adjourn. FR seconds motions. Vote 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM