

## **STURBRIDGE TRAILS COMMITTEE**

### **MEETING MINUTES – October 12, 2023**

**LOCATION:** Center School

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

**ASSOCIATE ATTENDEES:** Tom Chamberland (TC)

**GUESTS:** Brian and Kathy Peterson, Shawn Reed, Kristin Neslusan, Isabel Neslusan

**RECORDED BY:** Fritz Reeve, STC Secretary

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**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:02 PM

#### **Trail Counter Data:**

- In September:
  - There were 4,963 total trail visitors based on Trafx counter data. This is a decrease of 582 visitors as compared to last month. This is a YTD decrease of 795 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 3,948 visitors, followed by Riverlands with 449 visitors, Heins Farm with 263 visitors, Long Pond with 187 visitors, and Plimpton with 116 visitors.

#### **Girl Scout project: Isabel (Guest)**

- Proposed a project to educate hikers on safety tips and etiquette for hiking alone. The safety aspect would be developing a digital response time program to locate hikers in need of assistance.

#### **REVIEW of PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:**

- No meeting minutes to review

#### **BUDGET:**

- Lumber and supplies purchased to put in floor of shed #3
- TC presented trail usage table
- TC presented trail volunteer table showing total 2023 volunteer hours of 992 for \$38,735.14
- December is budget time. STC should think about what is needed for upcoming year.
  - Solar system for Sheds
  - Battery operated tools (drill, blower, chainsaw)

#### **GRANTS:**

- Waiting for the bids to get approved by the town select board for the two existing MassTrail grants

#### **TRAIL WORKDAYS/UPDATES:**

- Oct 21

- *Leadmine Mtn:*
  - *Mtn Laurel trail - Relocation/rock armoring. Need 6-8 people and RTV, picks, shovels, pry bar, loppers, gloves, rock slings*
  - *Mtn Laurel trail - brush cutting and trail cleaning*
  - *Cow Stile trail - brush cutting and trail cleaning*
- *Riverlands*
  - *Cistern and flow trails improvements*
  - *Haul gravel up on Riverlands to Leadmine near Flow #1*
  - *Arbutus - spread fine gravel needed to complete trail*

**TA UPDATE:**

- *No update*

**FROST UPDATE:**

- *Working to establish new board members by the January annual meeting*

**ConCom MEETINGS:**

- *No Update*

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- *Oct 21 - Shawn Reed to do interviews of STC*
- *Oct 29<sup>th</sup> - Rotary 5k Race - STC will provide two water stations*

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- *No Update*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- *Extension of Flow trails has been denied by Opacum*
- *Bridge from Rt. 20 to Riverlands. Opacum is aligned with the vision but want to be heavily involved in the project build.*
- *Shawn would like to interview the STC while on the trails*

**NEXT MEETING:** *November 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm.*

**ADJOURN:** *BG motions to adjourn. FR seconds motions. Vote 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM*