

## **Rail Trail Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

At 7:30pm

Weston Town Hall

February 1, 2017

Attending Committee Members: Meg Kelly, Paul Penfield, Mark Horowitz, Anne Benning, Mike McCarthy, Jack Sands, Chris Stix, Roberta Lamb, Joe Berman

Absent: Patrick O'Donnell

Guests: Joel Angiolillo, Michael Harrity, Phyllis Halpern

- Meeting was called to order by Jack Sands (Chairman)
- Minutes were approved from the January 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting (Chris Stix-motioned, Group-approved)
- Jack Sands gave an update surrounding the news that DCR has offered to pave the Eversource gravel road from Wayland to the Weston trestle.
- Our understanding is that DCR has funds from their maintenance budget which could be used to pay for said paving. They will also construct slope protection and railings. The Town of Weston will need to maintain any traffic crossings and snow plowing.
- In discussions with DCR, there is no allowance for the Conant Road underpass.
- Based on this news, it was determined that the RTAC we will need to move forward on design, cost estimates and visualization boards for the project in order to effectively gather community feedback and to better understand the cost implications of the largest expense i.e., the Conant road underpass.
- The trestle is the second largest expense but based on the paving plans and work by Eversource, this item would be addressed at a later date.
- Discussions moved to where funding can be raised to meet these exploratory costs. Michael Harrity walked through our various options and the key dates.
- The RTAC (motion by Meg Kelly) voted to ask the Selectmen to approve the funding to employ Nitsch Engineering to conduct engineering and cost study for the Conant Road underpass.
- The RTAC (motion Chris Stix) voted to ask the CPC for administrative funding to hire a consultant to help in the programming phase and to help in the gathering of community feedback.
- February 27<sup>th</sup>: RTAC will conduct a Town meeting with the goal of educating the public, to gather feedback and to construct a community wish list. This will also inform the committee of items that may influence the broader cost metrics. Location is TBD.
- The next two RTAC meetings are scheduled for Feb 8<sup>th</sup> and Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Meeting adjourned (Meg Kelly motioned, Group approved)