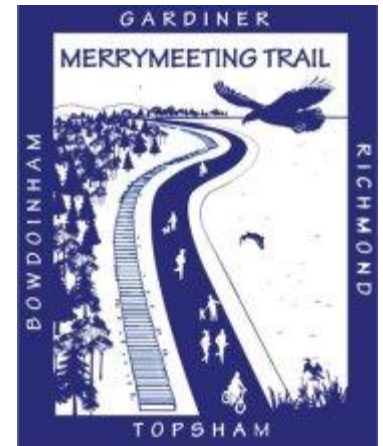


Merrymeeting Trail Committee
Wednesday, April 12, 2017
Meeting Notes

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m.

Attending:

Ruth Indrick, KELT; Jeremy Cluchey, Bowdoinham; Victor Langelo, Topsham; Tom Reeves, Gardiner; Nichole Briand, Bowdoinham; Lee Cataldo, BTLT; Carrie Kinne, KELT; Andy Hendrickson, KRRT



Current Capital to Coast Project Finances and Fund Raising

- A table showing current C2C project finances was shared
 - The group identified that the rail study was a first priority for use of funds
- The group discussed a triathlon as a fundraiser/fundraiser
 - Groups to possibly partner with: Bowdoin College, Midcoast Triathlon Club (MTC)
 - Nichole will talk with Mark Favreau from MTC
 - KELT will talk with Steve Balboni from Bath Rec about the Bath Y Tri
 - A relay tri might bring in more people, more local participants
 - Could even do a 4 part relay and add in canoeing
 - Could start small and not worry too much about official timing
 - A nice thing about the tri is that it fits multiple parts of the MMT - biking, running, the river
- KELT will identify grant funding sources for further funding

Projects

- Rail Assessment
 - Jeremy will share information about recommended contracting firms, feasibility study terminology, and North Carolina rail assessment example
 - Tom will share Mountain Division rail assessment
 - KELT will reach out to VA member/economist, George Becke, and Frank O'Hara for guidance on structure of report and contractors
 - It may make sense to break up the report into 3 different sections
 - Ruth will send out an outline of the project goals this week to meeting attendees for comments and editing
 - Project scope components discussed at this meeting include: costs to bring rail line (Brunswick to Augusta) up to passenger and freight use specifications, current subsidies for Portland to Brunswick, current use Portland to Brunswick
- Website
 - There is interest in having a consultant finish off the website update that Victor and Jeremy have started
 - a new site format would make it easier for multiple people to add content, cleanup the layout of the current site

- Nichole, Lee, and Andy identified local web professionals who we could contract with to do this work
 - The next step is for the communications committee to identify what information we want to change and what new things we want on a website
 - membership, blog, donations, etc.
 - Ruth will schedule a meeting
- Publicity
 - Ruth will work on updates for a June newsletter
 - these updates can also be shared on facebook page, land trust email, press release
 - Can be included in letters sent to legislative officials in June

Trail Updates

Bowdoinham Update

- Bike lanes have been added to Pork Point Road

KRRT Update

- The annual half marathon race will be on June 25th
- The 1/4 mile section at the north end going to waterfront park in downtown Augusta will be completed. DOT has funding for it now, and Augusta their 20% match through a tiff.
- Friends of KRRT wants to make a new brochure
 - they liked the map from the C2C brochure and would like to incorporate this into their new brochure. They would like to add and label new points of interest along the route
 - Ruth will email Andy with information about map files and CCGIS (map/brochure developer)

Cobbossee Stream Trail Update

- Trail is included in DOT bridge replacement project, Stantec is consultant
- A multi use trail across the Cobbossee will either be a separate bridge or part of the replaced Main Ave. bridge
- There is a Cobbossee Stream Trail Committee working to support trail construction and design
- The logo for this trail will be designed by the same designer as the KRRT, so it will match the design style of KRRT and MMT logos

Open Farm Day Ride

- Ride timing in 2017 will be:
 - long: 10am
 - med: 10:30am
 - children: 11am
- Victor is editing the long route
- Lee is available to lead the children's ride
- Farm schedule this year may be 10-1 and 1-4
- Local BBQ and music are scheduled as well

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Next Merrymeeting Trail Blazers meeting: May 31st at 9 a.m. in Bowdoinham

Submitted by R.I.