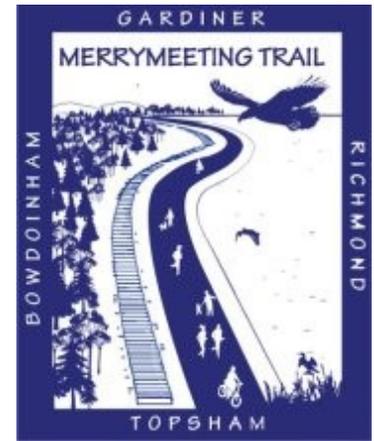


## Merrymeeting Trail Alliance

Meeting Minutes - April 11, 2012  
Bowdoinham Town Office

Attending: Nicole Briand, Bowdoinham; Rod Melanson, Topsham; Vicky Boundy, Richmond; Steve Musica, Richmond; Bob Bruce, Merrymeeting Wheelers; Vic Langelo, Topsham Trails; Burnham Martin, NPS; Alicia Heyburn, Carrie Kinne, KELT; Jon Edgerton, Wright Pierce; Andy Hendrickson, KRRT; Linda Christie, Access Health, Rich Rothe, citizen at large, Steve Chandler.

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### I. Introductions

### II. Task List & Work Plan Updates

- Wright-Pierce Maps – Jon Edgerton  
Ready for the web, Tom Reeves has a few changes, JE will send to Dan Stewart 5.9.12
- Organizational Structure – Status of Outreach to Managers
  - i. Interlocal Agreement
    - 1. Bowdoinham: was presented and town wants changes, will go to June 2013 town meeting.
    - 2. Topsham: will forward to the town.
    - 3. Richmond: sent to Town Manager, no meeting set yet for discussion.
    - 4. Gardiner: latest draft was sent to the city council.
  - ii. Suggestion to be positive about the benefits of the trail “This will happen...” as opposed to “what opposition is out there?”
- Richmond Village Segment MDOT Application– Vicky Boundy
  - i. Moving forward with letter of intent and setting up a site visit. Fledgling trails group in town which is very supportive of the .62 mile project. Please forward LOS to appropriate groups, edit as appropriate and submit back to Vickie.
- Powerpoint presentation – Jon Edgerton & Burnham Martin
  - i. JE will return to BM to make sure that final edits are incorporated. Draft will be shared at June meeting of this group. It is a sales pitch, intent is to reach a broad range of audiences as a conversation starter.
- Additional Tasks & Volunteers
  - i. Signage Plan – Dave Wood
    - 1. Dave out of town, but did provide a draft signage plan for entire trail. Send draft to DOT Dan Stewart and he may send to Steve Landry for review and approval. If we need DOT assistance for installation then it will be 2013, or local public works can be asked to install earlier. Topsham has trail ordinance and needs Codes approval. Cost unknown, but ECG is about \$8-10 per sign. BM- the plan indicated location but not design/size of sign. Will they be like Eastern Trail (large) or ECG (small, for biking wayfinders)? He encourages larger to attract attention, it is an important part of the outreach program. JE suggests making prototype. Signage group – Dave, Jon, Rod, Nicole and Vic.
  - ii. Outreach
    - 1. Upcoming Events
      - a. East Coast Greenway Alliance Trail Council Meeting – May 19<sup>th</sup>
        - i. Vic and Alicia will attend. Get materials to Vic, he and JE will

- coordinate.
- b. Active Communities Conference – May 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - i. We have no table (cost). JE & Rod presenting, Vic, Nicole attending.
- 2. Powerpoint & Plans to Municipal Committees & Interested Organizations
  - i. Start over the summer. Need to identify presenters. Materials will include display panels (first used at ECG meeting). Develop elevator speech, talking points, FAQs, bullets for the presenters.
    - b. Bowdoinham Biking Walking Paddling Committee
    - c. Topsham Conservation Commission
    - d. Gardiner Conservation Committee
    - e. Richmond Trails Group
    - f. Others
- 3. Town Selectboards & City Council
- 4. E-Newsletter – Alicia Heyburn
  - a. Started with MailChimp. Linda, Vicky, Burnham, Victor will review after CK, and NB comments.

### III. Workgroups

- Discuss status of existing workgroups and other workshops that may be necessary.
- Don't populate work groups yet, simply volunteer for specific tasks.
  - i. Outreach - need to develop a plan
    - a. Newsletter
    - b. PowerPoint
    - c. Signage
    - d. Talking Points
  - 2. Vic can help develop talking points. Everyone contribute FAQs and Vic compile.
  - ii. Pending Workgroups
    - 1. Organizational structure
    - 2. Corridor planning
    - 3. Funding

### IV. Kennebec Estuary Land Trust

- i. Trying to transfer the MCOG \$ to KELT, but MCOG is having trouble locating it. When this happens KELT will be fully on board, until then KELT will budget a few hours per week. Vickie says it is on the line item budget at MCOG board meetings, she will investigate. Rich Rothe, when this was set up each town contributed \$1000 + Brunswick = \$5000. DOT provides transportation planning funds to each regional planning council & wants to support MMT, just starting negotiations with each COG for 2 year period, starting July. This is a good time to make contact with MCOG planners. Nicole will talk to Dan. Rod will talk to Penny Ballencourt.
- ii. KELT met with Bath & West Bath planners/administrators and there is renewed interest in the K to A trail. Desire to apply for Trail of Statewide Significance for the entire section of Augusta to Bath.

### V. Other Business

- Steering Cmt. was formed of Rod, Nicole, Vicky, Jon, KELT, Burnham. Next meeting will be

5.29 with Tony Barrett (ECG), John Davis (West Bath), Andrew Deci (Bath), Kris Hultgren (Brunswick), Tom Farrell (Brunswick) to discuss history and vision for trail from Augusta to Bath.

- Vic having public meeting in Topsham on 5.12 @ Highland Green for short section along Rt 196.

VI. **Next Meetings**

- May 29 Steering Committee
- June 13<sup>th</sup> full group 8:30am in Bowdoinham

VII. **Adjourn 9:50**