

**MERRYMEETING TRAIL COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2013 8:30AM**  
**BOWDOINHAM TOWN HALL**

*Attending: Nicole Briand, Linda Christie, Audra Caler-Bell, Victoria Boundy, Alicia Heyburn, Burnham Martin, Jon Edgerton, Victor Langelo, Dave Wood, Rod Melanson*

**Updates**

Burnham/NPS: Phasing out, after September no more direct participation in meetings, but certainly available for consult. Shared organizational chart for how we may structure the working group/friends/municipalities and clearly offers suggestions for roles and responsibilities.

Richmond – Put \$25k in TIF budget for this year's local match, at least that much for next year as well. Dan Stewart is aware of this commitment. Applying to Davis Foundation for additional feasibility funds, \$5-10k. Continue looking for other sources. People stopping by town office to ask about MMT!

A2K – Nothing to report

GTTA – Did not get BikesBelong grant (only 10% were accepted) and unable to reapply for 3 years. Looking at smaller sources and pressing for business contributions. MidCoast Hospital is a possibility, building a new facility right next to the trail & **Linda** will approach New England Fitness. Have \$25k of the \$50k private funds needed.

Bowdoinham – December CMP will start work on the power lines. Celebrate Bowdoinham, September 14, 10 mile bike ride, 6 riders participated @ \$10. Next year will make earlier in the day. MMWheeler and Bob Bruce led it and made maps.

**Outreach**

Mapping Project – Center for Community GIS made mock-up of design based on the meeting with Alicia and Tom Reeves. **Alicia** will get print quote for various size formats so we can decide which is most efficient and flexible for home/office printing.

Water bottles ordered for Celebrate Bowdoinham. Hold off on distribution until we have a brochure to introduce the project. Ideally road signage will be installed to coincide with brochure roll out.

C2C ExRide – July 27, 2013 from Gardiner to Bath, 25 riders. Lots of fun, do it again with bus at the start, not end. July 26<sup>th</sup> is Richmond Days 2014.

October 5 Fall Foliage Tour Brunswick to Gardiner along the MMT route. **Victor** will introduce the MMT to participants. **Alicia** will put it on FB.

Interim Signage – Dan wants to ride the route, **Alicia** will invite him to October 5 MMW foliage ride. Interim route approval in fall? Make signs in winter privately with DOT designs. Installed in spring 2014 by DOT, or we can help. June is deadline for Sewall funding of signage. 3' signs: 6 for Freeport, 4 signs for Topsham and 4 for Bath that Wheelers will put on town roads.

## Trail Development

Rail Ride- November 5?

LIDAR- Completed mapping for Richmond, JCE will request downtown Bowdoinham to Browns Point Road for rainy day work list.

Survey – some data available from one day data collection on the Andro Bike Path. Lets do it again in conjunction with the national documentation project.

## Fundraising

Jane's Trust – Rejected – trustees thought the proposal and lagged funding was too complicated.

Sewall - Have \$10k that we will hold off on allocating until Davis and Betterment. Richmond double track? Browns/Pork Point? GTTA? **Alicia** do an updated budget to see what other funds are available. Mapping costs?

Betterment – **Alicia** will put in an application for the September 30 deadline. Really work on econ/dev component. Downtown revitalization, Health, community participation, tangible progress. GrowSmart Maine report has useful language. Creative safe and attractive opportunities for people to live a healthy lifestyle which includes active transportation and recreation. Make sure that timeframe is implementable. Close the gap funding for GTTA. Decisions in November. Include \$\$ for signage? MMW is buying 3' signs, we could buy some too. Betterment budget ideas: \$15 KELT, \$10k signage, \$10k predesign Bowdoinham-Richmond?

Davis – Richmond is applying, will learn in mid November.

Dave Wood noted that we are 5 years in to the development of the Merrymeeting Trail!!

*Next Meeting: October 9 in Gardiner, Nicole will coordinate with Nate*

*November 13 in Bowdoinham @ Fire station*

*10:15 adjourned*