

**Minutes**  
**Rail Trail Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday June 15, 2023- 6:00 PM**  
**Location: Carriage House, Endicott Park**

The Public is invited to attend. Contact [info@danversrailtrail.org](mailto:info@danversrailtrail.org) for more information

**Attendees:**

RTAC Members: Joe Anthony, Scott Bornstein, Charles Lincicum, Mark Jones, Tom Powers, Larry Perreault. Not Present; Nancy McNulty, Paul McNulty, Matt Duggan

**Others:** Tyler Berry, Sarah Bornstein, Elaine Cidzik, Bob Brown, Samantha Parsons, J. Gary Dolinski, Bill Graham, Luke McCaul

**Approval of RTAC meeting minutes from May 18, 2023**

Mark noted; minutes looked good, then motioned, and all approved the minutes.

**New Business**

**Comments from public and RTAC**

- Mark noted; he will be here tonight in Paul's absence.
- Mark noted an email from an avid RT user noting a vehicle spotted on RT.
- Mark initiated brief discussion after a first-time visitor asked about our policy regarding speeding bikes on the trail by both E-Bikes and traditional fully human-powered pedal bikes.
  - The RTAC will work Tyler Berry to encourage the Town Law Enforcement to monitor and enforce safe speeds for cyclists.
  - E-Bike ownership growth with our trail user will continue and education regarding the risks posed by speeding cyclists will be important
- Tom noted; Electric bike levels 1,2, and 3 have been approved by most national parks. Level 1 and 2 are considered non-motorized in MA.
  - With that being said, Tom will coordinate plans for speed limit signs in various RT locations.

**Danvers Electric Mowing week of June 26 - review guide plans**

- RT noted a few guides are still needed.
- Paul has noted recently to all; Danvers Electric Division and Mayer Tree do "industrial strength" mowing of the trail.
  - This mowing will remove shrubs, branches, etc. that may either damage power lines, or disrupt maintenance during emergencies.
  - With this being said, volunteers will guide trail users to alternate routes.
  - Work is usually done by Wednesday afternoon.

**Tyler to discuss town mowing ideas**

- Tyler circulated handouts for a Ferri rear mounted hydraulic attachment for our mower.
- Mark initiated some brief discussion, the group has agreed that the Ferri rear mounted hydraulic attachment will be safer and much more efficient for cutting the knot weed, edges of the trail, ditch banks and green grass in general.
- The Friends will discuss whether or not to donate the Ferri mower

**Current Recent Business**

**Update from the town -e.g. Pickering crossing, northwest extension, etc. (Tyler)**

- Tyler circulated a handout related to the Extension Phases.
- Tyler noted; Phase 1a Hobart Street - Maple Street stopping just short of grade change. A design for an ADA compliant access is being developed. Timing of construction TBD.
- Timing and nature of the pedestrian markings at Hobart St and Beaver Park were discussed. Tyler to follow up with plans. This included a discussion on the importance of getting something in place ASAP regarding safety at the Hobart Street crossing. It was pointed out that this crossing will draw many trail users from the YMCA and the nearby schools in addition to from the also nearby existing trail. The trail cannot be seen very well by Hobart Street drivers.
- Tyler noted; Phase 1b Maple Street - Nichols Street plans have been completed.
- Tyler noted; town will install the intersecting sign posts, and stop sign posts just for the extension. Rail Trail volunteers will install the Trail Entrance signs on these posts.
- Rail Trail volunteers to install stakes for new mile markers along the extension.
- Charlie circulated handouts for appropriate markings.
- More to follow when Paul and Nancy return.

#### **Update on Other Rail Trails on the North Shore**

- Charley presented a series of dates for several major construction improvements that are being designed or under construction. Some of the improvements were: the Rte. 62 ped/bike crossing near the Summer Street intersection; Nichols Street and I-95 segment; Middleton's Ipswich River Bridge; and one or two others. Charlie will put these important components of the area's trail network in writing and distribute to the Committee.

#### **Food Truck and Rest Area at Western Cycle Update (Joe)**

- Joe noted; crosswalk plans in this area uncertain at this time.
- Joe noted; Hunter is currently working out safe ideas for planters.
- Mark suggested; Hunter send Paul a picture of his preference to help direct walking traffic.
- Joe noted; possible plans to sit with Paul and work out sketch ideas for planter locations.
- More to follow at the next meeting.

#### **Benches donated by Locust St developer - next steps (Tyler)**

- Tyler noted; Dig Safe has prepared an area for the benches to be installed.
- Tyler noted; DPW has to approve the spot.

#### **Status of extension signs (Paul and Larry)**

- Charley and Larry spoke on Paul's behalf; post digger/ channel driver may be needed for mile marker stake installations.
- Charley noted; He has a channel drive for use.

#### **New mobile app**

- Mark noted; Danvers Rail Trail has a new app.
- Mark noted; the old app will go away.

#### **Adjourn RTAC**

- Mark initiated a vote to adjourn RTAC Meeting; All in favor.

#### **Set meeting date and location**

- July 20, 6:00 pm, Carriage House
- Charlie initiated a vote; all approved and agreed on location.