

Minutes

Rail Trail Advisory Committee Meeting

Time: Thursday October 19, 2023- 6:00 PM

Location: Carriage House, Endicott Park

The Public is invited to attend. Contact info@danverstrail.org for more information

Attendees:

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

Others: Tyler Berry, Elaine Cidzik, Sarah Bornstein, Karen Wagner, Bill Graham, Joe Riess

Approval of RTAC meeting minutes from September 21, 2023

- Approved the minutes by consent

New Business

Comments from public and RTAC

- Mark noted; Email from avid Rail Trail user noting wooden structure on Trail. RTAC notified the police. The structure was built by kids, and DPW has removed the wooden structure.
- Paul reminded the group that the seasonal potty's will be removed Friday October 27. Paul will unchain them, and remove signs a day or two before the 27th.

Current Recent Business

Update from the town (Tyler)

- Tyler noted:
 - Pedestrian beacons and ADA compliant pads have been installed at the Hobart St crossing.
 - DPW has begun work to install ADA compliant pads and markings at the Beaver Park crossing.
 - Tyler asked if we had any "temporary end of trail" signs. The RTAC has 4, which are in the shed.
 - Tyler circulated a sample of stabilized stone dust (feels similar concrete for a more durable trail surface) for use at a few problem areas. This material is about twice as expensive as standard stone dust but does not easily erode. Stabilized stone dust is applied like regular stoned dust and can be done by DPW.
 - Paul asked if the committee would approve spending \$2000 -\$4000 for work using this product, focusing on the problem areas at Pickering St and Oak St to Poplar St. Tyler will provide some additional details on costs and timing for the Friends of the Danvers Rail to evaluate for funding. Could be done in Spring 2024. All agreed with this approach.

- Phase 1A, Aaron had noted Mass Works Grant has been closed out.
- Phase 1B, Maple St. - Nichols St. work has been approved by the Conservation Commission. Town is working on plans to fund construction.
- Phase 2 (Rt 95 and Rt 1 crossings), no update at the moment.
- Phase 3, surface is complete, new mile markers are up. Need to evaluate trail entrance sign location.
- Tyler will check with Chris S and Aaron H about a meeting to review town meeting and funding plans.

Update trail entrance signs and new MM decal installations (Paul and Charley)

- Paul noted on Charley's behalf that all new trail entrance signs, mile marker decals, and sponsor decals are installed on the current trail. After installing the pedestrian beacons, Tyler installed the new entrance signs at the Hobart St crossing. As crossings are completed Tyler will continue to install new entrance signs
- Mark asked about a Welcome to Danvers kiosk/sign at the Middleton line. We agreed it is a good idea and will be evaluated.
- Related, we need to check with Middleton to see if we can hang the Danvers Trail entrance sign on the west side of their entrance sign post... reducing "post clutter". Paul will check it out.

Update on Utility e-Bike for trail maintenance (Charley and Tom)

- As background, Charley and Tom have evaluated a utility trail e-bike for use maintaining the current trail and the extension. Costs are estimated at about \$6,500. As Tom and Charley were not at this meeting, further discussion will be at our November meeting.
- Tyler noted that he spoke to Chris about whether the town had vehicles that might make sense for the trail volunteers to use.
 - One option could be to use the Grounds division John Deer Electric Gator (TE 4x2 Electric Utility Vehicle)
 - Another option would be to use a Natural Resources gas power ATV.
 - Both would be parked in our shed.
 - Tyler will organize time with Charley and Tom to try out /test this utility vehicle and compare the idea to the utility e-Bike.
- Further discussion on this topic at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

November 16 was agreed as the next meeting date. Same place and same time.

- The group agreed to **skip December RTAC meeting**, and possibly do an informal rail trail volunteer holiday gathering at Twisted Fate.

Adjourn RTAC

- Meeting was adjourned at about 6:20 pm