

City of Shelton, Trails Committee
Minutes for the Regular Meeting on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 5:00 P.M.
Minutes should be considered a draft version until approved at the next Trails Committee meeting

Committee Members

Present: Bill Dyer, Chairman
Terry Gallagher
Jim Taradine
Richard Skudlarek
Sherri Dutkanicz
Lynn Reid

Call to Order

Chairman Dyer called the Trails Committee meeting to order at 5:15P.M.

1. Approval of Minutes

Sherri Dutkanicz MOVED to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2011 meeting. SECONDED by Rich Skudlarek. All were in favor; MOTION PASSED.

2. Planning for Rec Path “ribbon cutting”

Chairman Dyer stated that the ribbon cutting is scheduled for Saturday, September 24th at noon. Agent Teresa Gallagher printed signs for the event and the members have some to distribute around town. The event starts at Pine Lake at noon. We’ve invited various people that have been involved with the Rec Path from the beginning, such as the DEEP, which have provided some of the grants, plus some of the people who originated the idea of the path, volunteers and those who have worked on the construction of the path. We have a rain date set for Sunday, September 25th @ 11:30 A.M. We are going to try and encourage some of the Huntington Center merchants to offer discounts to the people attending.

Agent Teresa Gallagher is the one who is coordinating most of this event. We plan on giving an award to Perkin Elmer for their volunteer efforts on the Rec Path. There will also be an official announcement of the naming of the brook that’s on the property we recently acquired (Basil’s Brook).

The committee members talked about work that needs to be done at various locations before the event. They plan to meet on Saturday to take care of last minute cleanup.

Sherri Dutkanicz said that once a month Perkin Elmer has staff meetings for the employees from Branford and Shelton. They would like for us to present the award at the meeting so that the rest of the employees could understand what these individuals did. It might be better done there because the people coming to the event on the 24th will mostly be the people involved. She asked Chairman Dyer if he would be able to make the meeting for the presentation. He said yes, let him know the date.

3. Shelton Day plans and materials needed

Shelton Day is October 2. We can set up our booth at 8AM and the event starts at 10AM, ending at 5PM, rain or shine. We can talk with Teresa about a new brochure if needed. Chairman Dyer will see if he can get authorization from Conservation to be able to purchase more t-shirts to sell.

4. Planned Rec Path Projects for 2011

A. Status of the base construction contract – 2a, 3c, 3b, 3a

The status of the above mentioned phases are completed.

Chairman Dyer presented the invoice for \$35,000 for section 3a. We have asked to keep the 5% retainage so that the quote for the Great Ledge could go in as an add-on. Some have been out and looked at the work and it looks great.

Terry Gallagher MOVED to recommend approval of the invoice presented from Pruzinsky & Sons work completed on section 3a. SECONDED by Richard Skudlarek. All were in favor; MOTION PASSED.

B. Quote for completing the Great Ledge, 1200' section

Chairman Dyer mentioned that they met with the owners of 67 Oak Valley Extension today. They had their lawyer there and had an interesting idea. The map of the property was shown and discussed. He also laid out the route of the trail by the property. He talked about the idea of changing the driveway and give them a right-of-way to their property (shown). The members talked about the concept and what would be involved in the change.

Chairman Dyer presented a quote from Pruzinsky & Sons as an add-on to the contract. It is for 1200' and would require a considerable amount of drainage work, among other things. This price does include the cost of the bonding required by the City. I will present this to Conservation tonight and to the Mayor. The Mayor's initial thought is to use City workforce. Terry Gallagher said that would be fine if they have the time. But based on the past experience with Pruzinsky & Sons they could have this done within a month once we have the contract squared away.

Terry Gallagher MOVED to recommend the contract-add on from Pruzinsky & Sons to the Conservation Commission. SECONDED by Lynn Reid. All were in favor; MOTION PASSED.

C. Remaining fence locations-about 100' remain on contract

260' 2-rail fence have been installed by Orange Fence.

We have 120' of fence left to be installed. Four lengths (40') have been installed at the curb at the bottom of the big grade. It was supposed to be 7. I think they just ran out of time and just left.

We need to decide where the balance of the fencing is to be installed.

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D. Granite Pillars and removable bollards

Chairman Dyer showed the mock-up of the removable bollard that was provided by Orange Fence. He talked about the construction of the wood bollard and how it would work. We are still waiting for a quote for 8 plus installation.

Terry Gallagher talked about the wood one versus a metal bollard.

Terry mentioned that we may need to order more granite bollards. We probably have about 10 spots where we will need them.

Chairman Dyer talked about the Iroquois Pipeline company that has a grant program coming up in November for up to \$15,000. I think we should apply for it. Terry Gallagher mentioned that Northeast Utilities have a grant coming up too.

Richard Skudlarek said that there should be a bollard installed at Lane St to be in place of the boulder. Lynn Reid said we need a bollard at the crossing at Wesley. Bill said we need a granite bollard (logo) where the 2nd rock is (west side of Wesley).

5. Other 2011 Trail Projects and related issues

A. Dog Park Status

Lynn Reid said there are no issues. Richard Taradine said that there was an article about the Dog Park in the Shelton Patch.

Agent Teresa Gallagher has gone out and put the first layer of blaze paint on the dog park loop.

There is still the drainage problems at the parcel that Terry Gallagher warned would happen.

The Dog Park group have installed their kiosk and they have ordered a shed.

B. High School Volunteers: summer and next year

Chairman Dyer said he has not been contacted by anyone yet.

C. Status of white house

It is still standing but looks terrible.

D. Red Barn – Security Issues and re-stain

The committee members talked about ideas for security.

E. Gates and Fences

Richard and Lynn talked about the condition of a few places they checked out after the storm.

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F. Non-Rec Path Trails Maintenance

Some of the members talked about various areas that need attention.

6. Guided Hikes

A. September 24th – hike and bike

This event is pretty much being coordinated by Agent Teresa Gallagher. She would like for us to post signs around town.

B. October 23rd

Tahmore hike.

C. November

Lynn Reid suggested a hike on Thanksgiving weekend by the dog park and invite people to bring their dogs.

7. Membership and Volunteers-Shelton Patch

8. Potential Work Party

Chairman Dyer suggested meeting at one location and then splitting up from there.

Richard Skudlarek suggested one location be at Constitution by the middle school (Silent Waters) plus the strip across the street.

They decided to meet at the middle school at 8:30 AM.

They discussed mulching needs.

9. Equipment and Expenses

A. Equipment to be acquired

Terry Gallagher said he got three quotes for the wood chipper. They are about \$2800-\$3000, depending on who you get it from.

B. Expenses to submit

Richard Skudlarek submitted an expense reimbursement for \$15.84 for gasoline for the Gator.

10. Eagle Scout Projects

No new Scout potential projects.

The members talked about some cleanup needed around the dog park. It won't be a Boy Scout project.

11. New Project – Disk golf

Chairman Dyer said he has not heard any new talks about the disk golf course.

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12. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, October 5, 2011.

Rich Skudlarek MOVED to adjourn the meeting. SECONDED by Lynn Reid. All were in favor; MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Chaya
Clerk, Trails Committee