

Ferrisburgh Trails Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: May 8, 2023

Members in attendance: Courtney Kanetzky, Barry Estabrook, Amanda Crocker, Drew Mills

Guests in attendance: Steve True, Katie Raycroft-Meyer

Meeting commenced at 7:00 PM in the Ferrisburgh Town Hall.

Review and approval of meeting minutes: The minutes for the April 10th meeting were not approved due to lack of quorum.

https://www.ferrisburghvt.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={78D95038-6997-4D30-B841-92D003DFA325}

Planning process

- Projects over \$10k require bids
 - Need to ask about situations with too few bids.
 - Public involvement is paramount and process rules reflect that need
- Discussion of tasks
 - Tasks 3 and 4 order may need to be fluid
- How to deal with unhappy landowners?
 - Newspaper announcement
 - How will we discover conserved lands?
- We have probably 18 months to spend the money.
- We should be prepared to encounter unexpected obstacles like:
 - Land is sold during the process
 - Easements refused
- Porter Knight developed a similar plan for Bristol Trail Network
- Process for bidding out
 - Needs posting in newspaper
 - There will be one posting of the RFP, one winning bid, one consultant
 - Reporting needs are defined for the process that must be met.
- Requisition process
 - First bucket of money is provided at start
 - Second bucket requires reporting about midway
 - Last bucket at end after showing results

Round barn road landowners

- they are looking for easements
- landowners must pay legal fees
- They want restricted rights such as no motorized traffic, only young kids allowed on bikes, etc
- Vermont law provide protection already, but they want tighter restrictions so that it doesn't become more public than currently in use (walking and kids riding bikes to FCS)

RAISE federal grant

- Hoping to connect FCS to the Amtrak station in Vergennes under this grant

Website

- Need to add grant to site
- Landowner information and process
- Upper valley has info we can reference
- Discussion about images is deferred until larger attendance is present

Taste of summer

Hosted by Union Meeting Hall

Weekend of May 18th

- Friday: 4-7 PM
- Saturday: 11 AM-7 PM
- Sunday: 11 AM-3 PM

Setup for the event

- Map of Trails
- Pins and string for marking trails
- Print out a qr code for website
- Set out feedback box
- Provide Rokeby trail maps
- Recruiting new members

Still waiting on specifics about vendors and participation. We want to target specifically the hours with the highest likely participation. Current thought is to be there when the vendors are there.

New business

- Planning subcommittee will be Robert, Annie, and Drew. They still need to affirm their participation.

Next Meeting will be at 7pm on Monday, June 12, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm