

CITY OF DOVER

COMMUNITY TRAIL COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Meeting Type: **Regular Meeting**
Meeting Location: **Council Conference Room, City Hall, 288 Central Ave**
Meeting Date: **Tuesday, October 5, 2021**
Meeting Time: **5:30 PM**

Members Present: Bryant Hardwick (Chair), Jacqueline Finnerty, Patrick Manning, Tim Mallard, Alex Abbott, Shayna Sylvia, Robert Saulnier, and Bill Stafford.

Others Present: None

Staff Present: City Planner Donna Benton

B. Hardwick opened the meeting at 5:30 pm.

1. Introductions

2. Approval of August 3, 2021 Minutes

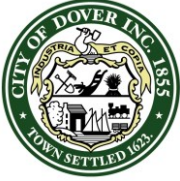
- Motion to approve made by P.Manning. Seconded by J.Finnerty. Vote U/A.

3. Recap Walk with Arts Commission

- M.Herrick, T.Ryde, J.Finnerty, and P.Manning from the CTAC and Nancy Yewter, Cliff Blake, and Yulia Rothenberg from the Arts Commission (AC) attended a walk along the trail in mid-August. They walked the entire trail and came up with a list of potential areas and what type of art at each. M.Herrick sent D.Benton minutes. P.Harding and J.Finnerty took photos and had a presentation today but there were technical difficulties so P.Harding will try again. Ideas included doing something with an old light post by Silver Street such as a hanging sculpture. Something on the new fences along Rutland to Fisher like fabrics or plastics that an elementary school could take on. Musical chimes would not be desired near homes or on the rural section. The group discussed trying to leave the rural section rural and “untouched” vs. adding art. If art were to be added, it should be of natural materials. Fourth to Whittier could have something like the Giant Trolls. Everyone agreed that tires could be a liability. The idea of natural looking benches was discussed. Signs are needed on the light posts between Third/Fourth and Chestnut.
- A goal was made to create a formal art plan in the next six months. S.Sylvia reminded the group about the recommendations made in the Cultural and Recreation Master Plan Chapter. D.Benton clarified that the CTAC is open to art on the trail if a volunteer group or the AC would like but also don't necessarily prioritize art along the trail. B.Hardwick thought that was made clear at the August meeting when the AC attended. D.Benton will communicate that with the AC.
- It was recommended a sub-committee be created between the AC and CTAC and that the CTAC would review the art and location along the trail. Members from the CTAC volunteering to be on that sub-committee include S.Sylvia, P.Manning, and J.Finnerty. The group questioned if the staggered fence was still necessary and if the abutters and the City would be ok with removing it.

4. Recap Volunteer Group Clean-up

- D.Benton recounted that the Northeast Color volunteer group had a volunteer day on September 10th. They painted the sewer covers, built benches, built a trailhead at Whittier, cleaned up the Whittier St. Trailhead area and Whittier Falls Way path, re-painted both murals, stenciled the sidewalk, and did a general clean-up. The CTAC was very appreciative of all of their work/effort. B.Hardwick sent a thank you email to them.



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5. Bench and donation policies

- D.Benton explained that there was a request to add a bench using recycled construction materials in memory of someone along the slope near the Silver Street tunnel. The idea was not favored by the CTAC. It was agreed that a bench policy is needed. The group was a bit split on whether benches belong on the trail and where, what materials can be used and where so discussion ensued. The idea was that the rural area should be natural materials yet sturdy and safe. The urban section would need to match the new ones along Fisher to Durham Road/Route 108. A map of current benches available should be created. D.Benton will work on the policy. The CTAC provided the guidance that it should be an application and each case would be voted on by the CTAC, only names and dates would be allowed on a plaque. Donations also need to be approved by City Council.
- D.Benton explained a request to remove one of the new benches along the Fisher to Route 108 section. The group decided that any issues should be brought up to the Police and that park hours are regulated. The group expressed their sympathy and evaluated the request/concern but ultimately decided that the plans were reviewed by the CTAC. It was raised that abutters were notified of the project, and that the Police would be the more appropriate entity. The CTAC is happy to re-evaluate the request in 6 months if it is still noted to them by the complainant that an issue remains.

6. Update on TAP Extension Phase III

- D.Benton explained she and Christopher Parker walked the trail with NHDOT officials on September 30th. They were pleased. Staff is finalizing paperwork and then Phase III will be officially complete.

7. Update on TAP Extension Phases IV-A and IV-B

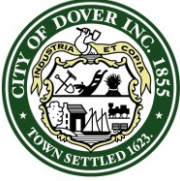
- D.Benton shared the news that this phase was not one of the approved Transportation Alternatives Program projects in the NHDOT 10-year plan, meaning Dover wasn't awarded the funding they applied for to add the bridge route to Phase IV.
- D.Benton explained that on the same walk when NHDOT's Project Manager was in town, she and C.Parker took him over to the Bellamy Road parking lot site. Now that he was able to see it in person and how much better of an alternate the route south of the river would be to stay out of the disc-golf course, he will look into extra funding. D.Benton is working with the consultants on a change-order to present to NHDOT and City Council about spending further money investigating the feasibility of the bridge over the Bellamy River.

8. Update on Washington Street Trail Crossing

- The Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons are still on back order but the rest of the improvements are in. B.Stafford has done a nice job keeping B.Hardwick and D.Benton updated. The CTAC is so pleased that this project finally occurred.

9. Update on Voyage Mark II Solar System Installation

- D.Benton provided an update that the contract has been signed and the installation is expected this spring.



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10. Update on Promotion/Adopt-A-Trail Section/Goals

- D.Benton thanked S.Sylvia for helping to update a brochure and map for the Community Trail. D.Benton brought copies over to the Chamber and placed in City Hall hallway for the public and added to the website.

11. Other Business

- D.Benton explained the Open Lands Committee and Planning Department decided not to do their Apple Harvest Day booth this year.
- D.Benton mentioned she has been discussing mountain bike options with T.Mallard. Liberty Mutual's grounds crew and the Open Lands Committee (separately) cleaned-up some of the trail off-shoots.
- The CTAC informed staff that the drainage has been much better on the rural section but some more gravel areas are needed near Beckwith Ballfields and there are holes near Whittier Falls Way.
- A request was made to expand and stripe the Watson St. Parking lot for overflow.
- D.Benton has reached out to NHDES about the permitting needed for a kayak launch off the community trail that a donor has expressed interest in.
- The CTAC reminded D.Benton they expect the trail from Rutland to Fisher, and Washington to the Rotary Trailhead to be plowed at least one pass wide this winter.

12. Next meeting—December 7

13. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 6:48pm on a motion made by P.Manning and seconded by S.Sylvia. Vote: U/A.