

APPROVED AS WRITTEN - 5/9/2019

Southbridge Trail Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 11, 2019

McCann Room

Meeting called to order at 6:55pm

Attendance: Kevin Buxton, Ken Pickren, Pat Charron
guest: Patricia O'Brien
excused absence: Paul Van Camp

Motion by Kevin, 2nd by Ken to approved the March 14, 2019 minutes as written;
passed unanimously.

Status of Ray Arnold was that he was approved by the Planning & Development Committee. It now goes to the Town Council for approval at their April 22 meeting. Once Ray takes the ethics course, then he is swore in by Maddie. Ken noted that he has Ray's contact information.

Patricia O'Brien came to the meeting believing she was at the one concerning plastic bags. After we corrected her error, Kevin informed Patricia that it was the Board of Health meeting she sought and that the plastic bag topic had already been discussed as he had stopped in at the BoD for same. Patricia asked about our committee so we gave her a quick overview.

As we had started to discuss the QVRT status, Ken gave Patricia a short summary of the erosion and DOT issues; he also mentioned the pending contract. The discussion grew into several topics including the funds/costs and federal requirements that seems to delay fixing the erosion issue; the non "river park"; how so much red tape slows and impedes the process of so many things.

We explained to Patricia what we've accomplished so far concerning the Heritage Trail and that we have submitted a budget for what we hope to do once we have the funds; that we are presently awaiting budget approval.

The committee talked briefly about the fill that was recently pushed into Lebanon Brook at the stone arch on section 2 of the QVRT. Abutting property belongs to estate of Sally Lazo which involves many issues. This incident is a real concern to us.

Ken mentioned utilizing local scout troops for work details.

Ken will speak with Suzy Geers about a town walk in the more unknown trails areas; maybe have several walks that also include other towns.

Next meeting is Thursday, May 9th 2019

A reminder: Heritage Trail maintenance work is scheduled for April 28, 9am

Patricia stayed for the entire meeting which adjourned about 8 pm.

submitted by Pat Charron

