

**Minutes of Richmond Trails Committee Meeting
September 20th 2016, at 7pm at the Town Center**

Committee Members Present: Callie Ewald, Ian Stokes, Martha Marciel, Tyler Merritt, Veronique Beittel, Jim Monahan, Willie Lee, Sam Gaulty
Other Present: Joy Reap, Wyatt Vargas, Colin Greene

Joy Reap joined the meeting to begin a discussion regarding the development of new trails. Particularly ones that connect the neighborhoods off Hillview to the Preston Trails. Several ideas were discussed and possible routes. Joy is getting together with a group of interested people that plan to reach out to property owners in hopes of adding trails to the network. A short discussion regarding insurance was also had. Ian referenced an old booklet with information in regards to this on the town website. The Vermont Statue of landowner protection was shared and the group agreed to continue this discussion in future meetings.

The Preston Improvement project was discussed. Willie made a plaque for the OGE grant and it will be put on the bridge as required by the Grant. It was brought up that the traffic on the Preston Preserve has increased over the summer and the trails are in need of some routine maintenance. A trail work day will be planned for the middle of October. Sunday, the 16th, was planned as a tentative date.

A few properties were discussed as potential areas for new trails. We have received permission from David Sunshine to build a trail on his property, however we must think about and sign appropriately so that parking is prohibited near the trail head as this is his driveway. Tyler noted that he has already, but would like to walk the property to start flagging a trail. Discussion on this will continue as well as discussion about the Andrew's Land. This is far off, but noted as a potential connection between David Sunshine's Land and the VYCC property.

An email was received about bikers cutting a new trail down a steep bank off of the Rivershore trail. This was investigated and determined that the new trail was being created by beavers and not human traffic. The concerned citizen was made aware.

A new trail has been built on the Preston Preserve between the Preston Loop (cat-dog) and Lung-Ta. Wyatt, who was in attendance, built this trail. The nature of the trail is a downhill trail with features. A discussion followed about adopting this trail onto the map as well as creating additional signage for it. The committee agreed to adopt this trail and also add more signage for the features as well as a 'one way' or 'exit only' sign at the bottom as it is meant to be a one-way trail for riders, runners, and hikers.

Martha gave an update on the pump track. One possible idea discussed as a location is by the school. There are future plans for this area, but the committee discussed installing the pump track at this location and in the years to come if other plans are made, the track could be easily moved or rebuilt somewhere else. It will be constructed out of dirt and require annual maintenance. Martha informed the committee that the school PE teacher Mr. G is doing the fundraising for the project. The trails committee discussed the project and will discuss in future meetings how the committee can be of help with the project.

Next Meeting will be October 18th
Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM