Richmond Trails Committee

10/16/18 7:00 PM

Present: Martha Marciel, Mike Donahue, Kate Kreider, Ed Wells, Jim Monahan, Tyler Merritt and Callie Ewald

*Trail Updates:*

Johnnie Brook Bridge Update – The carpentry will be finished this Friday (10/19) with a work day. Pete Gosselin will be working with Greg Western of CVTA to bring gravel to the site to used on the approach to the new ramp.

River Trail Update – John Hamerslough cut up a tree on Christa Kemp’s property and would like assistance removing the pieces to the side of the trail. Need to organize a work party. Tyler will follow up with John and relay info to committee.

Old Jericho Rd and Sip of Sunshine Trail Updates – Jim cleared down trees on both trails. Plan is to perform trail maintenance, possibly addition of short bridges, but wait until spring to perform and build.

*Sign Inventory:*

Trail signs were discussed and assignments were given to develop an inventory of signs needed. Callie will develop a google sheet where folks can enter in sign needs.

Rivershore – Jonesville end to Cochrans – Martha

Rivershore – Cochrans to Cemetery - Callie

Old Jericho Rd & Sip of Sunshine – Jim

Volunteers Green – Ed

Merritt Parkway/Preston Trails – Adjust sign at bottom of Merritt to say “Private property, stay on trail”, instead of Trail Ends.

A question was brought up about potentially adding a small parking area on Cochran Rd near Safford Preserve where the Town purchased a 1-acre lot a few years ago. This summer, parking was quite full at canoe access and at the bottom of Wes White. Additional parking toward that end of the River Trail and Safford Preserve Trails. Callie will discuss with Jean on step to move forward.

*Trail Standards:*

The objective of this topic was to discuss trail standards and the need for our committee to have some guidelines to reference when starting to map out a new trail. Tyler brought the book “Trail Solutions – IMBA’s Guide to Building Sweet Singletrack” to share with the group. The book does a great job highlighting all of the considerations from public and private property outreach, erosion control, environmental concerns, and geometric design. The committee agreed to start development of a simplified document of our best practices and a short reference guide that the committee can use and share with the Town. Callie and Ed agreed to begin working on this draft.

*Hunting Signs:*

Martha will makes signs for hunting awareness and will send to Jim for lamination. The signs will include a message to “Be visible!”. Callie will include in a Front Porch Forum post. Trails signed will include Preston, Sip of Sunshine, and JBT.

*Other Items to Report:*

Martha gave an update on the trail passes through the public library. There is currently a pass with a discount to Sleepy Hollow. The group agreed to reach out to Catamount after the town committee business gets settled.

Ed gave an update on the tree planting efforts adjacent to the Volunteers Green. Ed is involved in the group and gave the committee an outline of the proposed plantings to help with future erosion.

Mike gave an update on the Willis Hill Trail. There is a trail with a lot of bench cutting from the parking lot up the hill.

Meeting Adjourned.