

Minutes

Attendance – Patti Stevens, Chair; Bill Barnard, Steve Cohen, Becky Lehnerd, Laura Scharle, Rick Farr, Board Liaison. T. Michael Fraser, who is interested in serving on the committee attended the meeting to learn more about our work.

Minutes from the March meeting were reviewed, edited, and approved.

Bainbridge Playground Planning; Kayak Rack installation; No new information. May be affected covid outbreak in public works.

Kayak Launch - Laura met with John Aniunas from A Plus Marine Services at the Pintail Park. He made recommendations for where an accessible launch should be positioned and will follow up with proposal for installation of an Ez Dock and ramp. Further consideration is needed for vehicle access to a drop off point near the proposed ramp. Committee recommends coordinating installation with bulkhead replacement.

Paddling classes – Laura reported that 12 people participated in the Pre-season paddling night on March 29 learning about cold water safety, trip planning, equipment and tips on transporting kayaks. Other new water recreation opportunities are a sunset Paddle on May 22 and two sessions of Intro to Kayaking in June. Laura will talk to Ayers Creek about possibly bringing kayaks to rent for the intro sessions.

Trail Improvement Project – Waiting for a Workplan from Public Works indicating when they will be putting down wood chips and if/how volunteers could assist. Also to find out about existing plans for improvements where the Route 90 trail has been surveyed and marked. AARP Grant update– no news yet. Bill is monitoring.

OP Community Bike Ride will be at May 21 at 4pm. Steve Cohen has secured volunteers from the Kiwanis Club and Lt. Steve Ready is requesting Fire Police Volunteers from the Fire Department. Becky got discount coupons from the Snowball Stand for riders. Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition received a \$2500 sponsorship along with Back Street Bikes that will pay for bike bells and reflective stickers for those participating in community rides.

NEW BUSINESS

Bay Day – May 15 – Volunteers are needed. Michael Fraser would like to help. Laura and Steve are already involved with exhibits and food service.

National Trails Day is June 4. Bill proposed this day to kick off our community trail walks. He will lead one on the Route 90 Trail. Kathryn & Ralph Ferrusi will lead a walk on the Robin Hood Trail. This will be an opportunity to get feedback on trail conditions and potential improvements. Bill will firm up times and other details to provide with committee at next meeting and to OP communications to promote.

Future meeting Topics –

Sharon Santacroce, Chair of Environmental Committee, contacted Patti and shared the topography map of the Pond off Route 90 Trail and info from a resident that there is a kayak launch at the pond which has been overgrown with shrubs but is still there. She will come to the May 9th meeting to share what they are working on and to consider opportunities to collaborate.

Committee would like to learn about existing memorial bench program from Debbie.

Complete charging document to request that Board consider creating a volunteer coordinator position to identify, attract, and recognize volunteers in Ocean Pines. This was a strong theme on the survey.

Discuss Becky's idea for "Inspirational Pines Point" at South Pond in the gravel area. Consider installation cost & maintenance.