

Village Core Meeting
May 27, 2008
5:00 pm

Attendees: Stan Duda, Dennis Ducharme, Rick Russack, John Hettinger, Paul Kasianchuk, Peter Moore, Kareen Hamilton, Mike Yarnell

Chairman Hettinger said he has spoken with Muffy Copenhaver, and she is in favor of the trail coming through the Depot Plaza. She will bring up the plan with Mike Conklin at the next board meeting, in 3 weeks, and suggest everyone agree to it as well. The group would like the path to go through the Depot's parking lot if possible.

Both the Board and the homeowners of The Lodge at Lincoln Station have approved the trail going through their property. Chairman Hettinger noted that where he had proposed the trail come onto Rapids property, two homes are planned, and they will have large retaining walls on their east sides. Russ Cooley spoke with Ted Sutton, stating he had some concerns. Therefore, we will try to keep the trail on the Lodge at Lincoln Station property as much as possible. Town Manager Sutton had asked Chairman Hettinger to call Mr. Cooley, which he did, but he has not heard back from Mr. Cooley yet.

On Bunker Lane, Chester Kahn had said that he would work to get the trail approved there. We have not heard back from him, so are not sure what he's done there so far.

On the western section of the Riverfront Park Trail, the InnSeasons part, a bridge will now be moved to the river's edge, with InnSeasons kindly providing a long temporary bridge. They will notch out the southeast portion of the pile of debris too. The Town of Lincoln land seems fine. Any wetlands areas can be crossed by a bridge. Quite a bit of landfill would be needed to put the trail up on the dike by the sewer lagoons. Mike Sabourin told Chairman Hettinger that getting trucks there would be difficult. Mr. Sabourin and Steve LaFrance walked the trail with Chairman Hettinger yesterday. They decided that the trail could stay at the bottom of the dike, as this area is not wetlands. Only minimal fill would be needed on this route.

The group also reviewed the DRED property, and Steve LaFrance said that the area Ted Sutton thought might be considered wetlands was not. Therefore, that section of trail has been moved back to its original location, coming out of the parking lot at the visitor's center, allowing for an easier 5% grade. The fifty-foot wide section near a brook was also deemed as not being wetlands, so just a small bridge is needed there.

Jennifer Codispoti has been contacted and we should soon have a letter saying we have permission to use the DRED property for the trail.

However, Steve LaFrance and Mike Sabourin mentioned to Chairman Hettinger that we need to be sure that we are in compliance with the Shoreline Protection Act, as much of the trail is planned to be within 50 feet of the river. Chairman Hettinger thought one could cover 10% of the land within a 50 x 50 foot area, but that may not be the case. He

was told that the trees must be counted, by type and diameter. Mr. Duda explained how the tree counting works and that it's based on basal area. Basal area is tree cover, and we would most likely need to select cut. South Peak had someone from Littleton do this tree measuring/counting recently for their property. Dennis Ducharme asked if Town Manager Sutton had finished the shoreline exemption request. Peter Moore said that we are still working on that.

Mr. LaFrance and Mr. Sabourin suggested to Chairman Hettinger that we should be prepared to start clearing before July 1. After that date a permit may be required unless worked was started previously. Mr. LaFrance is checking on some of these requirements of the Shoreline Protection Act for us.

Chairman Hettinger showed the group the maps that Mr. LaFrance of Horizons Engineering had provided so far. Mistery LaFrance, Sabourin, Ducharme and Brisson have been helping us quite a bit and we appreciate it.

We notified Mr. Gegas of the Trails Bureau about the change of surface from asphalt to ¾ inch hard pack. Marilyn Sanderson wrote to him and to Ms. Feighner about that change, explaining that no excavation and only minimal hard pack (up to 6") would be added. Chairman Hettinger read a copy of the letter. Ms. Feighner approved the change. When Bill Gegas responded, he asked for more details regarding the impact to the grant funding. Chairman Hettinger explained that the revised cost would allow us to do 1,400 feet versus 600 feet. Chairman Hettinger also showed the group a letter we received stating that no rare plant species are in the trail area from Cooper memorial Bridge to the end of the InnSeasons property. Archeological resources are clear for that area as well. Mr. Gegas e-mailed Town Manager Ted Sutton that we would now need an alternate project coordinator, as Ted has retired. So, the only current concern is the shoreline protection issue, and Steve LaFrance has already started working on resolving that.

Tom Adams has started work on planning the park. He is trying to reserve space for the various items from lists provided that people have indicated they'd like included. Marilyn Sanderson asked that we lay out where we want the easements, where required. She will apply for the NH Electric Coop grant next.

Susan Chenard will check where the sensitive plants are on the balance of the trail between InnSeasons and the visitor's center.

Tara Tower was not available to attend the meeting, so she will report on the progress on the 501(c)3/4/municipality opportunity at the next meeting.

For now, we are waiting on Mr. LaFrance to see if we need to move the trail. Mr. Ducharme will speak with Chris Mulleavey from Hoyle Tanner as well.

The next meeting was set for 5pm on June 10th.