

Thompson Trails Committee MINUTES
Monday, April 3, 2023, 7:00 pm

Link to April 3 Zoom meeting recording:

Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/cwWjmjo9XRBxD7fqvpmYGqQZy62prN0-j4iRkh8cY16O1-tYdh4bxK10J_nyCiDL.N4z7Wt60xaFiXsjl?startTime=1680562804000

Passcode: ^7zxsVmk

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDYPlnZxRIO>

In attendance: Karen Durlach, Kevin Fijol, John Kochinskas, Mike Laguenesse, Lucille Langlois, Brian Loffredo, David Ostrowski, Paul Provost; Town Planner Tyra Penn-Gesek; LyAnn Graff, TLGV; Valerie Clark; Becky Kalager; Michael St Lawrence, WLT

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Lucille moderated.

David made a MOTION, seconded by Brian, to accept minutes of February 6, 2022. All in favor.

Correspondence:

- Request for support letter from Thompson Trails Committee from WLT to U.S. Forest Service Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Grant Program for acquisition of Boy Scout property abutting LeClair parcel. Written.

Finances: Balance available as of 3/30/23 was \$10,683.36.

Citizen's Comments: Michael St Lawrence thanked Committee and Becky Kalager for support letters

Events:

- Natchaug Epic: Charlie & John attended and Charlie spoke before award ceremony.
 - TLGV Spring Outdoors brochure distributed; events can still be added to web listings.
- John submitted & will be leading a paddle 6/3, CT Trails Day, from Fabyan to West Thompson Dam
- Maker Fair Saturday, May 6 (Raindate May 7): suggestion that T-shirt sales be at Recreation Dpt. booth.
 - 2023 Turkey Trot scheduled for Nov. 12

Trail updates:

- Great East Thompson Train Wreck park project: J&D Engineering readjusting the boundary survey with the Butlers for turntable site. Tyra reported some of the reimbursements from the previous grant should be coming in and we should hear about the next round of grants May/June.
- John plans to take care of damaged bridge railing on ALSPT and someone on Facebook reported trees down between condos and Sunset Hill
- 12-Town ALSPT Task Force has hired a replacement for Jeanne Davies.
- trail around Bull Hill soccer field needs assessment & clean-up of downed branches

- Michael St Lawrence expects 6-9 months before there is a grant decision on funding purchase of the 272 acres of Boy Scout land adjacent to the 75 LeClair Preserve acres. WLT would like a partnership with Trails to plan and implement a trail system once the land is acquired.

Possible 2023 Goals:

- explore having a Thompson listing in Putnam's tourist map
- bike repair stations (waiting on EDC budget)
- installation of HETAP assessment signs on ALSPT (contact Matt Quinn)
- "Welcome to Thompson" sign on the RR bridge over I395 ramp
- mile markers on the ALSPT from the Mass Line
- Thompson trail signage (in coordination with either 12-Town Task Force or independently if necessary)
- continue TLGV trail assessments behind Drafters (coordinate with new developer; extend or loop trail?)

Social Media/PR/maps

- need map holders for kiosks (Brian)
- Tyra reported that Thompson submitted their funds for reprints of Z-fold maps
- John needs material to post on social media
- coordinate with Historical Society & Conservation Commission if any trails data should be included in their plan for self-guided cemetery tour

Reports from neighboring towns

- Putnam: no news, waiting on second CTDEEP grant application
- 12-Town ALSPT Task Force waiting for CTDEEP grant decision

Equipment:

- John will buy a single, better quality metal handled log turner
- research cost of stone dust
- check hours on the Kubota & if it needs an oil change & where to do it (John)

Future agenda items: set up trail design working group with WLT

Motion & second to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 8:20 p.m.

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: Monday, June 5, 2023, 7:00 p.m.