

Trails Meeting
January 12, 2017
6 pm
Dover Town Offices
MINUTES

Attendees: Mike Purcell, Andy McLean, Sharon Cunningham, Kelly Pawlak

Attendance was low but good conversation amongst those who attended. Was attendance low due to the date change, other commitments, lack of interest or participants just too busy? We will see if attendance improves at next meeting.

1. **Primary area of focus** - define the main corridor – approximately:

Northern end (Snow lake)

Southern End (airport)

Western edge (Coldbrook Rd)

Eastern edge (Rt 100)

2. **Trail expansion**

- a. Tannery Wildlife – Kelly did not invite Edie Mas to meeting. Mike Purcell said he may see her and ask.
- b. Deer Creek land – tax sale – the town bought that parcel at the tax sale and there is one year for owners to pay back taxes.
- c. There was discussion about the Eugene Ettlinger parcel (Little Flower) that is for sale – about 50 acres and the opportunities it would open up.
- d. Andy had good news from the USFS. The trailhead project on Handle Rd is now on the USFS Schedule of Proposed Action. There could be a decision by Oct 2017 and implementation by May 2018. Andy warned us that he has been working on this for a very long time and has learned that it could take longer. But great work just to get on the list!

3. **Group Format**

- a. Start our own 501c3? Decided to wait and talk about this with larger group.
- b. Ask the towns of Dover and Wilmington if they would earmark a portion annually and/or front the money to form a 501c3. See 3a

- c. Need a name for the group. See 3a
- d. We talked about possible leaders for this group. Elia Hamilton and Tim Hunt came up as possible leads.
- e. We talked about possible sub committees who could work on:
 - i. Inventory 9(Kelly has this started)
 - ii. Trail Network
 - 1. Map existing
 - 2. Scouting
 - 3. Trail expansion
 - 4. Owner permission
 - 5. Which trails can we "legally" use and promote?
 - iii. 501c3
 - iv. Marketing
 - v. Maintenance
 - vi. Permitting

4. Main objectives/strong trail system attributes

- a. Connecting trail (multi-use, non-motorized) from Dover to Wilmington.
- b. Parking - in a central location
- c. Core area of focus that has access for beginners and expert users alike
- d. Visually marked trails – user friendly
- e. Find a way to link all lodges and businesses together
- f. Smooth and improved path – must be sustainable

5. VMBA

- a. Tim Hunt – reached out to Tom Stuessy, Executive Director at VMBA. Report to group. Tom would like to see this group as an arm of VMBA. He would like to come down and talk to us as a group. He would like to see at least 5 people who are vested in the group. Are we there yet? Tabled until next meeting but we did discuss possible leaders for the group (3d).

6. Marketing

- a. Sharon explained that the Bitown digital marketing \$\$ was being used to direct people to the visitvermon.com Chamber website. Kelly asked they could market for us and Sharon said they could help us with digital marketing.

7. Maintenance

8. What do we want to achieve

- a. **by May 2017**
- b. **by November 2017**

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 9th

Scribe: Kelly Pawlak 1.13.17

