



TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NORTH HAMPTON SELECT RAIL TRAIL COMMITTEE

September 6th, 2023

NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman James Sununu, Secretary Joe Manzi, Carrie Becker, Jeff Latimer

ALSO, PRESENT: Town Administrator Michael Tully

- 1.) **Chairman Sununu called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.**
- 2.) **Chairman Sununu asked for a motion to approve the December 2022 minutes.** The motion was made by Carrie Becker and seconded by Jeff Latimer. All voted to approve.
- 3.) **Trail construction Update.** Mr. Sununu explained that the Trail work began a couple months ago. Mr. Tully explained that they are moving quickly and are up north of Ocean Road. Still looking at October of 2024 completion. Mr. Sununu explained they started at Hampton Airfield and worked their way North. Mr. Sununu explained that there should be no vehicles on the trail and the agreement calls for no vehicles on the Trail even after completion. Work will be paused for the winter. People are encouraged to keep an eye out for workers if using the trail during the week.
- 4.) **Trail Towns discussion** Jeff Latimer talked about "Trail Towns" which gives a template of how to get ready for the Trail. Jeff also passed out a survey that addressed items such as what we need to do to get ready and encourage usage safety, parking, patrol heads, signage, connecting to businesses, welcome centers, and other amenities. Mr. Tully asked of the template included and MOU agreement with businesses. Mr. Latimer explained that it did not but that it was a great point. Mr. Sununu stated that we will post website links to the Rail to Trail websites and could also include the survey in the Friday folders. Mr. Sununu stated that there have been discussions with WS management to manage the Home Depot/Shaw's shopping center. Possible parking and kiosk on the side of the LL bean building with steps and trail connection. Mr. Sununu also discussed other access points that have been discussed. Carrie Becker recommended that there are no steps. Joe Manzi suggested that the parking may be able to go more in the back of home depots and Shaw's where there is a lot of space, and it connects easily to the trail. Mr. Tully stated that there is a concern that there is where the delivery trucks go, and they we would like to avoid that.

- 5.) **Review of RPC/NPS signage plan.** Mr. Sununu explained that the Rockingham Planning commission received a grant that allowed them to work with the National Park service to develop trail head concepts and signage plans. Mr. Sununu showed a presentation of signage ideas that is unique to the Seacoast Greenway but also ties into the east coast project from Maine to Florida. NH may be the first state to complete the project.
- 6.) **Other business** the group discussed that the trail is getting a lot of use. Carrie Becker asked about hunters being on the trail. Mr. Tully stated that there is no hunting on the trail, but it can connect to abutting properties where hunting is allowed. It was discussed that we can post signage.

Meeting adjourned 7:43 PM

Disclaimer-These minutes are prepared by the Recording Secretary within five (5) business days as required by NH RSA 91-A;2,11. They will not be finalized until approved by majority vote of the Rail Trail Committee.

A recording of this meeting can be found at

https://townhallstreams.com/stream.php?location_id=35&id=54937

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Manzi, Secretary Rail Trail Committee