

South Coast Bikeway Alliance
Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 22, 2017 6 pm.
DARTMOUTH TOWN HALL

Committee Members Attending: Bob Espindola, Greg Barnes, Sandra Medeiros, Gail Roderigues
Others in Attendance: Paul Pawlowski, Mary-Ellen Boyle, Angie Hilsman of Dartmouth Week

Secretary's Report: No minutes were available from the previous meeting.

Treasurer's Report: None

1. Bike Challenge Update

The committee discussed the status of the Bike Challenge and whether it should hold a Bike Challenge Celebration this year. Concern about the cost and the ability and desire to hold a ceremony with pending expenses for upcoming workshops. Gail offered to confirm the date of the Dartmouth YMCA Harvest event (September 23?) and report back to the group. It was suggested that an email be sent to challenge participants asking if they would be interested in attending the celebration before making a decision.

2. DCR Trails Grant Update

The Trail Workshops to be provided by Peter Jensen are scheduled for Saturday October 21 and 28 at the Dartmouth Regional Parks and Trails on Old Fall River Rd in Dartmouth.. Permission to use the Dartmouth Regional Parks and Trails pavilion will be arranged by Greg.

An email and press release will be sent out the week of September 8 to announce the workshops and to encourage participants to register prior to a September 22 deadline. The means of registering needs to be finalized. Constant Contact and Google docs were suggested.

It was suggested that participants be asked to pledge to volunteer 1 hour of service on the South Coast Bikeway Northern Route or other SCBA project in exchange for each classroom hour attended.

The means of financing the workshops in the short term prior to reimbursement from DCR was discussed at length. Those in attendance preferred to fund the workshops without borrowing unless able to obtain a no interest loan. It was suggested that the first two workshops be funded by existing SCBA funds, submit to DCR for reimbursement then schedule and fund spring workshops.

3. Northern Route Map and Write-up

Greg Barnes prepared and presented a write-up of the proposed Northern Route
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bz70J8_gReJEWDFEOVFHQkNMZEIGOXoySTdmZmVwS3NwNXQ4/view?usp=sharing

4. Northern Route Feasibility Study

It was determined that a feasibility study is necessary to move the Northern Route project forward. VHB Engineering firm has been asked for a rough estimate for a cost of a feasibility study.

It was suggested that we ask Peter Jensen and Assoc. for assistance with the feasibility study. Paul advised the group to request Jensen to write a RFP for the feasibility study, obtain/execute (?) RFP costs, determine costs of implementing RFP then learn the cost to build the Northern Route from the Feasibility Study. Once the cost to build is estimated the fundraising can begin. Consultants would be hired to create plans/drawings.

It was determined that we should meet with Bill Napolitano at SRPEDD to ask for assistance with feasibility study. Bob, Greg and Paul will arrange a meeting with Bill Napolitano and Bill DeSantis, VHB's Bicycle and Pedestrian Practice Leader.

The length of the Northern Route in each community was questioned. SRPEDD has provided lengths in the Transportation Report . Costs estimates were also given.

Greg advised us to meet with Dexter Mead, DNRT, as soon as possible to discuss the Northern Trail as it will pass over DNRT property and to finalize a presentation to be made at the DNRT Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 20. Greg suggested that a few of us attend to show broad support of the project. The pledge to require volunteer matching hours should be brought up in the presentation to show that we will bring trail building assistance to the project.

5. Volunteer Efforts

Volunteers who signed up at the Summit will be recruited for work on the DNRT portion of the trail.

Volunteers will be sought for representation from the town/cities not active with SCBA.

Paul offered to speak with New Bedford about becoming a New Bedford representative to the SCBA.

Mary-Ellen asked if there was an at-large member? The group will look at the bylaws and consider adding an amendment. Bylaws are clearly posted on the SCBA website.

6. Grants and funding

Mary-Ellen has been actively researching grant and funding opportunities. The Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts Crapo Fund has a September 30 deadline and might be an option.

7. Next meeting: Tuesday, September 12 @ 7 pm Fairhaven Town Hall

8. Minutes from SCBA meetings 2016 to present need to be submitted to Town of Dartmouth.

9. Adjourn 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Medeiros