

Friends of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail *Minutes of the Meeting on June 21, 2016*

Roll call: (by George Hart in Clerk's absence) - members present: Denise Begley, Dan Call, Mark Cressotti, Alice Flyte, Joe Giffune, George Hart, Bob Pac, Kate Phelon, Kasey Provencal, Zack Swanson, Sandy Sorel

Sandy Sorel: Golf Tournament went well; gave handout with \$ which was all ahead of '15, no bills outstanding, returned signs and caricatures, thank yous to all for their help, assorted questions and comments regarding the \$ (invoices by treasurer)

Chair Report: Joe G: apologized for no agenda; and no May minutes received from Chris S.

Mark Cressotti: trail counters are to be mounted on wooden poles, need to decide if mounted or on Shaker Rd. crossing, operated on a photo; MPO mtg tomorrow; the north section has been advertised and where the Columbia Greenway crosses the esplanade it will need to close during construction (Joe G said it should stay closed), Joe asked when the bridge will be completed and Mark said, hopefully in the fall of '17 or '18, and the central section will be put off a couple of years due to trouble securing money (DOT is not comfortable with status of temporary easements)

Alice Flyte: 171 people attended the Bike Week events; she read a list of responses to our trail survey; on 6/25/16 at 10am is the decorated bike ride (all on handout) – it is in collaboration with Southwick – it starts at Shaker Farms C C, goes to Sam West Rd and back, there will be a WEN press release. Denise will create a database in xcel.

Co Directors of Maintenance: Bob Pac and George Hart – all on a handout; George added that 5 paintings had been done stating “PATH ENDS”

Joe G; - noted the bricks and the need to update acceptable phrases

- trail counters: Don Podolski has recommended high end counters that need to be higher onto highest utility poles. Joe asked, so do we want “Cadillac” style poles or others? – Dan Call said simple would be useful; Bob P said, low ones are \$1400.00 each and higher ones are \$4000.00 each. Joe said high end is valuable for consumer use; there was assorted further questions and discussions. A vote on high or low tech was for low. Joe will bring this back to John Tassinari

- fireworks are at South Middle School so we'll work on placing lights on the trail

- Central section is to '19 and we will do email comment and pictures of people holding signs saying “finish Columbia Greenway Trail” because we need to do these things in force! to get info to the PVPC (Pioneer Valley Planning Commission) and now there is no Westfield representative on the PVPC.

Sandy Sorel: Shortstop Bar and Grill fundraiser (10% of all meals purchased on 7/12/16); we haven't yet received a check for their prior fundraiser for FOCG

Joe Giffune: - he and Don P. did present at Chamber Breakfast

- perhaps FOCG should spend \$ for portable bike racks, so could we maybe appropriate \$500.00 to purchase these?

Bob Pac: asked about complete streets and Joe said it is staying in committee (city council: board of health and safety. Also asked about MJ's survey results – she is away so this is unknown.

Motion made to adjourn, motion was seconded, vote passed.

Next meeting 9/20/16