

**Rail Trail Committee  
Minutes of Meeting of May 6, 2016**

PRESENT: Chairman Dave Pierce, Ray Taber, Police Chief Robert Browne, Public Works Director Adam Jacobs, Parks & Recreation Director Rick Wilhelmi, and Town Administrator Sue Desruisseaux.

CALL TO ORDER: 9:10 by Chairman Pierce

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: *Ray Taber moved, David Pierce seconded to accept the minutes of January 16, 2016. Passed: 3-0-3. Chief Browne, PW Director Jacobs, and Town Administrator Desruisseaux abstained as they were absent from that meeting.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

RECOMMENDATION ON APPOINTMENT: There is a vacancy on the committee as a result of the resignation of Lowell Von Ruden who has relocated out of state. He filled a position as a representative of the Friends of the Rail Trail. We have received a volunteer application from Mr. Warren Denby, President of the Friends of Rail Trail, to fill that vacancy.

Sue Desruisseaux moved, Ray Taber seconded to recommend the appointment of Warren Denby to the Rail Trail Committee. Passed: 6-0-0.

SELECTMEN PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENT TO TRAIL ORDINANCE: Chairman Pierce noted that the Board of Selectmen will hold two public hearings May 9<sup>th</sup> and May 23<sup>rd</sup> on a proposed amendment to the Trail ordinance to allow use after dusk and before dawn with proper illumination. Chairman Pierce inquired if the committee wanted to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. Members discussed several issues: privacy issues of abutters especially when trail has not been completed and fencing/natural landscape barriers not fully developed; safety of users at night as trail is not fully developed i.e. tree roots, and sand; additional liability concerns.

*Sue Desruisseaux moved, Rick Wilhelmi seconded to NOT offer a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen until after the Public Hearings and input from the town's insurance carrier. Passed: 6-0-0.*

2017 RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION: Chairman Pierce shared the grant application approved by the Board of Selectmen. It will address 450' beginning where the Manchester Trail ends, and 3,500' section between Mooseclub Park Rd. and Lynchville Park Rd.

LONG RANGE TRAIL PLANNING: Chairman Pierce distributed a handout showing what parts of the trail have been completed, what will be done if the 2017 application is successful and what remains to be done.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussed the parking issues on Henry Bridge Road and near the Baseball fields.

*10:10 AM Ray Taber moved, Sue Desruisseaux seconded to adjourn. Passed: 6-0-0.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sue Desruisseaux

*Subject to committee approval.*