

O&W Rail Trail Coalition of Municipalities – July 28, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at the old O&W Train Station on Eastern Correctional grounds on Miller Road in Napanoch. Our host was Terry Houck, Dan Johnson and Superintendent Bill

Attendees: John Grossbohl, (Kingston), Gary Mulligan (Ulster), Ralph Durham (Hurley) Carl Pezzino (Marbletown), Steve Rice (Rochester) and Terry Houck and Dan Johnson (Wawarsing). Bill Lee, Superintendent of Eastern also attended the meeting and hosted us. A quorum was met.

o) The meeting started promptly at 3:00 pm. Bill took us on a tour of the train station before we toured the trail. A lot of the history of the O&W and the prison are beautifully laid out inside the restored building. The station is owned by DOCC and is not part of the trail. We then toured the proposed new trail that will run directly along side the Rondout Creek and behind the prison cemetery. The views are quite nice. Dan stated that the town of Wawarsing Highway Dept. intends to surface the trail with Item 4 stone in the Fall. A split rail fence will delineate this part of the trail from the prison. This will take between 30 to 60 days to complete. Funding is hoped for from the portion of the million dollar county grant to Wawarsing/Ellenville to be used for recreation and tourism. At the end of the tour we thanked Bill for his time, interest and cooperation. It was a really enlightening tour.

We then held a brief meeting to discuss the following;

o) June 23rd minutes were approved without comment.

o) Ralph gave the financial report. A free checking account was opened at Ulster Savings with an initial deposit of \$5. The account is in the names of Ralph Durham (Treasurer), Carl Pezzino (Chair), Mike Warren (Marbletown Supervisor). The name of the account is O&W Rail Trail Coalition. \$500 was deposited as the member fee from the Town of Marbletown on July 6th. The Hurley fee payment is expected soon. Ralph gave Gary the signed Town of Ulster voucher while at the meeting. As of this writing Ralph has sent out the rest of the fee invoices to Kingston, Rochester, Wawarsing and Ellenville.

o) Terry stated that he received an email from Ellenville Village Hall that Lonnie Coplen has accepted the position of first alternate to represent the village on the coalition. This is indeed good news. Terry will copy the email from the village to Carl and Carl will contact Lonnie to meet her and discuss the coalition's activities with her.

o) Carl P. delivered the routed out welcome signs for Ulster (Gary) and Wawarsing and Ellenville(Terry). The signs now need to be cleaned up, painted and installed by their committee volunteers. Other sign status; John G. reported that the signs have been painted but not yet installed. Steve is still working on Rochester signs. Hurley signs are installed and looking good.

o) Carl P. showed the committee a mock up of the format for an O&W brochure provided by McCorkle Design. It is a four fold brochure with an extra half flap that opens to a full view of our O&W Trail map. All liked the idea and asked that we continue along this design line. Then Carl informed the Coalition team that a grant program from the Greenway was now open for applications. Applications are due September 9th. All agreed that this might be a good opportunity for requesting funding for the brochure. Carl will proceed along these lines and report back at the next meeting.

o) Carl P. also reported that Mike Reade of the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail requested a copy of our logo

without the track portion on the bottom. He wants to use it on their new map being designed for the WVRT. The Coalition members asked me to contact our designer to have such a copy made (at no charge) so that they can review it. In addition, prior to any use of our logo, the Coalition members asked that all the trail entities in the county get together on an agreed common format “round” shaped logo that everyone agrees with so that we don't have to reinvent any logos in the future. Not sure who should coordinate this activity.

o) Steve reported that an announcement may be forth coming from representative Cahill regarding additional funding for the the Kingston Connector. He expects it may be in the local press soon.

o) The meeting adjourned at 4:45 with thanks to Terry for hosting. It was then decided to have another “field trip” meeting on the fourth Thursday in August (the 25thst). We will meet at the O&W rail trail in Kingston off of Hurley Avenue that crosses the Point of Praise entry way and hear about the new Kingston Connector to Hurley.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Pezzino, Chair.

(We still need a secretary to volunteer!)