

O&W Rail Trail Coalition of Municipalities – August 17, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at the town of Marbletown's Community Center in Stone Ridge at 4:00 pm.

Attendees: John Grossbohlín (Kingston), John Morrow, (Ulster) Ralph Durham (Hurley), Carl Pezzino (Marbletown) and Terry Houck (Wawarsing); with 5 of 7 municipalities in attendance a quorum was met.

o) **The meeting was opened at 4:00 pm.**

o) **The June 22nd minutes** (there was no meeting in July) were approved unanimously without comment on a motion by John M. and seconded by Terry.

o) **Financial report.** Ralph reported that the month end July 2017 balance in the Ulster Savings checking account is \$3412.00. One expense, a check for \$125 was paid to Carl Pezzino for the payment of O&W hats. With a motion by John M. and second by John G. and a unanimous yea vote, the treasurer's financial report was approved.

o) **Logoed hats.** John M. made a motion that 24 new O&W embroidered hats be purchased from Kenco. As previously reported in the June minutes, these hats will be used to give to active board members and those volunteers and supporting persons of the O&W at no cost to the individual. The motion was seconded by Ralph and passed unanimously. **Carl will order the hats at cost expected to be about \$11 per hat.**

o) **Municipal trail committee Reports.**

Kingston: John G. reported that he has continued clearing trees along the Central Hudson part of the trail in Hurley. Following his work there, the town of Hurley highway department has further cut back the trail from the farm tunnel to the water access road. John G. was concerned about the amount of dead grass, small trees and cut down weeds left behind. **John M. offered his farm machinery to help cleanup the mess. John G., John M. and Ralph will get together and form a work party to make this happen.** Carl also offered to help. John also stated again that several more work parties from the county Probation dept., organized by the D&H Alliance, have made further progress in clearing the trail.

John G. painted, stained and installed a mile marker post at the entry to the trail in Kingston behind the Super8 that is labeled K 0.2 / E 26.8. The marker was routed out by USHECO of Rosendale (at no cost).

Ulster: As stated above, John M. offered up his farm machinery to help clean up the trail. Gary Mulligan was unable to make the meeting but reported via email that new brochures have been placed at the YMCA, Quickcheck, and the Rip Van Winkle Golf Club.

Hurley: Extensive mowing by the town highway department continues on schedule.

Marbletown: The town trail committee has held several work parties to clean up around the beaver pond and in the areas north of Rest Plaus road. Mowing by the highway department continues to be done for the entire trail every two weeks or so.

Rochester: Prior to the meeting Carl talked with Coalition member Steve Rice about the need for more consistent mowing along the Rochester portion of the trail especially with the new brochure indicating the trail there is in good shape. Steve got with Rochester Highway Superintendent who stated that the trail is not his priority and will not support highway work efforts on the trail at this time. **The committee asked the chair to contact Supervisor Carl Chipman to request his support.**

Wawarsing: As previously reported the Wawarsing Highway department work continues on the opening and stone paving of the Eastern Correctional Facility (ECF) new right of way. This is supported by a \$55,000 grant from the county as part of the "Ellenville Million". Terry stated that he expects that this work will continue unabated until completed. This was also corroborated in a brief discussion the chair had with committee member Dan Johnson. It is hoped that this 1.2 mile section will open soon.

Ellenville: Carl contacted Lonnie Coplen and she stated that she would no longer be able to be on the committee. **Terry will contact Dwight Coombes to see if he would be interested in the committee appointment for Ellenville. Carl also contacted Hank Alicandri to see if he would be interested. (As a Wawarsing resident this may pose a problem but Terry will contact Village Manager Joe Stoechler to see if it would be okay.)**

o) **Greenway Brochure Grant status.** 7,000 copies of the brochure were printed as a first run and distributed to the municipal trailkeepers by Carl P.; with a second run of 13,000 copies made after the ECF right of way 1.2 miles from the DOCC can be formally added to the map. The new brochure looks great and copies are going fast. **Ralph suggested we need weather resistant brochure holders in some places along the trail. He will check out where they can be purchased and will report back.**

o) **Project Worksheets.** Chris White reported that he has submitted the Final Design Report for the Kingston Rail Trail to DOT and is awaiting DOT's review and approval.

Please reply to Carl before the September meeting with any new progress on your particular worksheets.

o) **D&H Alliance request.** Carl contacted Steve Rice and **Steve said he will put us on copy of the recent and future D&H Alliance meeting minutes and will also copy those of us who are now members of the D&H Alliance be advised of meeting dates.**

o) John G. provided the trail presentation that was created for the Ashokan Rail Trail that discusses the value of trails both in health and economic terms. **Carl will now ask Chris White if county planning could provide a short presentation of the value of rail trails in general that could be used by all trail related committees and land trusts in Ulster County.**

o) **New Business.**

o) **New Website.** Carl met with Marian McCorkle (the designer of our new brochure) and asked that she provide a preliminary design and cost estimate for our new O&W Coalition website. At that meeting they sketched out the design which is attached to these minutes. The preliminary cost estimate is \$500 to \$1,000 after her pro bono contribution to the Coalition. (Marian is a great supporter and user of the trail.) The committee would be responsible for providing data input and management of the website with future updates. After some discussion, on a motion by Ralph and second by Terry, **the**

committee instructed Carl to go forward with the new website by Marian McCorkle Design.

o) The meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Next meeting; Thursday, September 28th at 4 pm location TBD.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Pezzino, Chair.