

O&W Rail Trail Coalition of Municipalities – September 28, 2017 Meeting Minutes

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

Attendees: John Grossbohlhlin (Kingston), John Morrow, (Ulster) Ralph Durham (Hurley), Carl Pezzino (Marbletown); with 4 of 7 municipalities in attendance a quorum was met.

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

o) The August 17th minutes were approved unanimously without comment on a motion by John M. and seconded by John G.

o) Financial report. Ralph reported that the month end July 2017 balance in the Ulster Savings checking account is \$3162.40. One expense, a check for \$249.60 was paid to Kenco for the payment of 24 new 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. A portion of the 24 new O&W hats were handed out as follows; Carl(2); John M. (5); John G.(5); Ralph(5); 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.

o) Municipal trail committee Reports.

Kingston,Ulster,Hurley: John M., Carl, and Gary Mulligan visited the entire portion of the trail from the Super 8 to the entry point onto the paved portion of the trail in Hurley. The purpose of the visit was to see what type of machine could be used to open up the trail with the least amount of manual labor. It was John M.'s recommendation to use a tracted skid steer with front mower to get the job done most effectively. A source for such a unit was unavailable from a friend and John M. will continue to search for such a machine to be either volunteered or rented. It would be good to cut this portion of the trail back before the snow flies. This portion of the trail is very narrow where cut down low but navigable.

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 again. Committee work parties cleaned out the ditches at Cottekill south and Marcott north. Several small work parties cut up dead trees and debris along the trail. The highway department continues to mow the entire trail every two weeks or so.

Rochester: Carl P. state that he has requested a copy of the signed copy of the Coalition Agreement from Supervisor Carl Chipman. Carl C. agreed to send it to Carl P. via USPO.

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". Unfortunately there has been a delay in the completion due to other Wawarsing Highway priorities. It is hoped that this 1.2 mile section will opened soon so that the recent O&W brochure map can be updated and reprinted

Ellenville: No representatives were in attendance from Ellenville due to the resignation of Lonnie Coplen. As per last month's meeting minutes, **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.) At this our O&W September meeting John M. stated he had some Ellenville contacts he could ask.**

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. **Ralph stated that the town of Hurley will purchase several new weather proof clear map holders for placement on the Hurley portion of the trail.**

o) **Project Worksheets.** Chris White updated the Kingston Connector worksheet (attached). Hank Alicandri stated that he would update the Wawarsing worksheets. Carl will follow up with Terry Houck as well.

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

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 still needs to 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 Website.** The preliminary design of our new O&W Coalition website was discussed(attached). **Some changes were discussed and Carl has already met (Monday, 10/2/17) again with designer Marian McCorkle for another interim update. In the meantime John G. agreed to take on the update for Sister Trails and John M. has agreed to take a shot at the O&W History section. Carl will update the About Us and add a new portion to it which will now contain Contact Us information, the Contact Us box will now become the newly added Recent News box.**

o) **1916 O&W Railroad Maps.** The Ulster County Real Property folks have scanned and placed these maps on file for copying onto a thumb drive. **Carl P. will get a new thumb drive and take it to County for copying.** This is great news as this will preserve these valuable historic maps forever and they can be easily shared by all who are interested.

o) The meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Next meeting; Thursday, October 26th at 4 pm location TBD.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Pezzino, Chair.