

O&W Rail Trail Coalition of Municipalities – January 24, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at the town of Marbletown's Community Center in Stone Ridge at 6:00 pm.

Attendees: John Grossbohlhlin (Kingston), John Morrow, Gary Mulligan (Ulster) Ralph Durham (Hurley), Carl Pezzino, Eric Stewart (Marbletown); Mike Baden, Steve Rice (Rochester) Terry Houck (Wawarsing), Hank Alicandri (Ellenville) with all municipalities in attendance a quorum was met.

o) **The meeting was opened at 6:00 pm.**

o) **The September 2017 minutes** along with the November 2017 were approved unanimously without comment on a motion by John M. and seconded by Terry.

o) **Financial report.** Ralph reported that the year end July 2018 balance in the Ulster Savings checking account is \$3162.40. No expenses were incurred during the last quarter of year 2017. With a motion by John M. and second by Gary and a unanimous yea vote, the treasurer's financial report was approved.

o) **Municipal trail committee Reports.**

Kingston,Ulster,Hurley: John G. and Steve continue to work on keeping the trail open on the proposed Kingston Connector. Chris White provided the update to Worksheet K01 (see attached). Unfortunately, ROW access continues to go slow, moving the completion date to 4Q2019.

Hurley: Ralph has mounted 3 new brochure holders at the Esopus, Russell Road and 209 south parking lot. Nice job.

Marbletown: Newly elected councilman Eric Stewart has been appointed liaison to the Marbletown O&W trail committee by newly elected Town Supervisor Rich Parete. The town trail committee has held several work parties to clean up several blow downs along the trail. Four new benches have been placed along the trail near the Hurley town line, Boices crossing, Rest Plaus road and at the bridge near the Rochester town line. They look sharp.

Rochester: New town supervisor Mike Baden is working with Steve to add a second alternate to the Coalition from Rochester. They are also considering having a trail committee for the town.

Wawarsing: Newly elected Town Supervisor Terry Houck, along with Hank Alicandri are working on solving the connection of the “Bennett property” with the trail to the north and south. 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. Unfortunately there has been a delay in the completion due to other Wawarsing Highway priorities and the onset of winter. It will be too late to add a “completed” red line to the next printing of the brochure.

Ellenville: Hank Alicandri is now the Ellenville representative (alternate 1). We look forward to Hank's invaluable input for the Village (and Town of Wawarsing).

o) **Greenway Brochure Grant status.** The final copy of the second round of the brochure has been sent to the printer. 13,000 copies should be available in the next couple of weeks. Carl will distribute to all when we receive them. Members are asked to distribute their left over copies of the first run now.

Don't forget your local restaurants and retailers. Carl has finalized the paper work to complete the grants from Greenway and UC Tourism. When final reimbursements are received all 20,000 brochures will be paid for with no cost incurred to the Coalition.

o) Project Worksheets. It was decided at the meeting to send all worksheets to all members with these minutes. They are attached after being updated. **Please review and reply to Carl with any new progress on your particular worksheets.**

o) New Website. The new website is moving along and we should have a first pass by next meeting. Updates for various segments, i.e. the map, list of coalition members (without contact info.), O&W history, trail rules and requests, sister trails, etc. have been provided to the designer as starting points.

o) 1916 O&W Railroad Maps. Carl now has the thumb drive of these maps(35 in all) which is available to all of our members. Ulster County also has the original on file. This is great news as this will preserve these valuable historic maps forever and they can be easily shared by all who are interested. They are very valuable for finding old culverts that have been covered up and overgrown.

o) Mile markers. Carl will buy 4x6 pt posts at Williams Lumber for markers K27 to K16 (E0 to E11) and take them to USHECO for routing. Ellenville, Wawarsing and Rochester teams will then stain the posts and paint in the letters for future installation as the trail is completed. Posts will be paid by the Coalition checking account, routing is gratis from USHECO.

o) The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Next meeting; Wednesday, February 28, 2018 6 pm at the Marbletown Community Center (MCC)

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Pezzino, Chair.