

**O&W Trail Coalition Meeting, April 25th at 6 pm at the Marbletown Community Center
MINUTES**

Present: Carl Pezzino (Marbletown), Ralph Durham (Hurley), John Grossbohlín (Kingston), Mike Baden (Rochester), Eric Stewart (Marbletown). With 4 of 7 towns attending, a quorum was met.

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm

March Minutes were approved.

Financial Report (Ralph): The organization has balance of \$2,746.20 after paying for lumber for new mile markers (\$166.60) and 24 new O&W hats (\$249.60). The report was motioned for acceptance by Mike and seconded by John. All were in favor.

Elections –The following new officers were elected unanimously on the 1st ballot:

Chair—Carl Pezzino

Vice Chair—Mike Baden

Treasurer—Ralph Durham

Secretary—Eric Stewart

Signage: Carl reported that work on mile markers E0-E11 area almost ready. The 12 posts have been picked up, and the signs will be routed with O&W logo and mile indicator. Signs are to be stained, painted and installed along trail starting in Ellenville and going north. Ralph noted need to repaint logos on existing signage elsewhere on the trail.

Volunteer Event: Carl reported that the Ulster Co. Association of Realtors plans a volunteer clean-up day event on Saturday, May 5. The clean-up will start at Cottekill Road and proceed south along the Marbletown portion of the trail.

Website: Carl reports that work on the website is progressing. John returned the thumb drive of the 1916 O&W trail maps.

Brochures: Rail Trail Coalition award of \$2,000 from the Hudson Valley Greenway has been closed out according to Marbletown Supervisor Parete with receipt of a check for the same amount. We have a lot of brochures left to distribute. One additional box will be given to each of the municipalities, with Ellenville & Wawarsing sharing a box. Ulster County will also receive a box of brochures. There are 900 to a box.

Hats: Carl distributed 4 additional O&W hats to each of those attending. Ulster and Wawarsing and Ellenville will each receive an additional 4 hats. Hats are to be given to folks who support the trail, at the discretion of the municipal members.

Trail Segment Reports

Kingston: John G. reported on down phone line on trail near 209 and documented situation with a photo. Also commented that a homeless encampment has sprung up at start of trail near Thruway overpass.

John announced a plan for a new interpretative sign that will be placed at mile marker 0. John

noted that the damage done to the trail in Hurley was actually done by Verizon and not Central Hudson, although Central Hudson did leave a lot of debris from tree cutting of Locust tree near the Trailways Station. This debris is problematic due to thorns.

Hurley: Ralph showed image and ordering information for weather-proof boxes for brochures that can be placed on sign posts as well as kiosks. There was discussion of three-dimensional triangular signs used in Hurley. Ideally one of the three faces should be installed to be facing 209 for maximum visibility. The "Get Fit Challenge" is taking place along the trail. Ralph to check on status of BSA Eagle Scout project at gazebo.

Marbletown: Carl reported that the beavers have returned and the new dam needs to be dismantled. Eric to contact Tito Walsh on status of signs for parking area. Carl reported that dead ash trees continue to fall across the trail. So far the committee has been able to manage the clean up with limited help from highway department.

Rochester: Mike reported that the discussion centering around involvement of the Kerhonkson Fire Co. as a source of a rail trail committee was offered up by Hank Alicandri at our March meeting. This was erroneously reported in our March minutes.

With Ulster, Wawarsing and Ellenville reps unable to attend, there were no new trail reports from those members.

Next meeting: Scheduled for Wednesday, May 23rd at 6 pm at the Marbletown Community Center (MCC).

Adjournment: At 7:20 with motion from John and second from Ralph.

Respectfully submitted, Eric Stewart, Secretary