

**O&W Trail Coalition Meeting, May 23rd at 6 pm at the Marbletown Community Center
MINUTES**

Present: John Grossbohlín (Kingston), Gary Mulligan (Ulster) Ralph Durham (Hurley), Carl Pezzino and Eric Stewart (Marbletown), Terry Houck (Wawarsing), Hank Alicandri (Ellenville). With 6 of 7 towns attending, a quorum was met. NB: Mike Baden (Rochester) was unable to attend due to last minute illness.

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm

April Minutes: With a motion by Hank and second by Gary the April minutes were unanimously approved.

Financial Report : Ralph reported that organization has balance of \$2,746.20, with no financial activity for the month of April. The report was motioned for acceptance by John and seconded by Hank. All were in favor.

Meeting schedule change: It was decided not to hold a Coalition meeting every month of the year. Meetings will now be held in January, April thru September, and November. Eight meetings in all. The vote was unanimous.

Signage: Carl reported that work on mile markers E0-E11 are almost ready. The 12 posts have been purchased at Williams Lumber in Kyserike and are being routed with O&W logo and mile indicator by USHECO in Rosendale free of charge. The routed signs will be delivered to Wawarsing to be stained, lettering painted and installed along the trail starting in Ellenville and going north as this part of the trail becomes opened. Ralph noted the need to repaint logos on existing signage elsewhere on the trail.

Volunteer Event: Carl reported that the Ulster Co. Association of Realtors Clean-up day event on Saturday, May 5 was successful. A portion of the ditch southward from Cottekill was cleaned out.

Website: Carl reports that work on the website is still progressing. A preliminary review by the team is expected at our June meeting.

Brochures: There are three boxes of extra brochures left to distribute. One each for Ulster, Wawarsing and Ellenville. Carl will bring to the June meeting.

Hats: Ulster and Wawarsing and Ellenville will each receive an additional 3 hats at the June meeting or earlier. Hats are to be given to folks who support the trail, at the discretion of the municipal members.

Trail Segment Reports

Kingston: John reported that work is needed to reopen certain sections of the Kingston portion of the trail in order to get ready for the Tour de Kingston in late June. He is working with Steve Rice, Community Service and hopefully other volunteers to make this happen. There are several wet areas involved.

Chris White provided the following report via email regarding the **Kingston Rail Trail Project. (This is indeed good news and I will add his comments to the K01 Project work sheet.)**

- o Ulster County was notified by NYS DOT of our NEPA Determination on May 11, 2018. This critical environmental approval of the Design Report is a key step in moving towards Final Design.

- o The County has received revenue contracts from NYS DOT for the Right-of-Way Acquisition Phase of the

Project. The contract is going to the Legislature for approval on June 19, 2018. This is a step forward in getting the authorization to acquire property.

- o The County's appraiser will be conducting property appraisals on May 30th in anticipation of soon beginning acquisition for the project.

- o The project is scheduled to go to bid in late 2018 with construction beginning in early 2019.

Hurley: Ralph reported that mowing has begun by Hurley Highway Dept. on the Hurley segment of the trail. The Boy Scout Gazebo Eagle Project was completed. Hurley Highway is working on the wet area of the trail near the Marbletown border. The entire black top area of the Hurley O&W trail, approximately 2.2 miles, is scheduled to be seal coated.

Marbletown: Carl reported that signs were being posted by the trail committee at the Cottekill Firehouse to prevent cars being parked at the eastern side of the firehouse. Grafitti has returned to the Cottekill to Leggett portion of the trail. Several signs have been replaced. The silo front door was also grafittied and has been repainted over. The bench near K9 has been reconstructed. No news on the potential for parking at Rest Plaus Road, negotiations continue with the owner. The silos at Cottekill are being prepped for the planting of ivy. Several new members have been added to the Marbletown Trail Committee.

Rochester: No report was available.

Wawarsing/Ellenville:

Rochester Town Line to Eastern Correctional Facility (ECF) north boundary. (Project number area W01)

Steve Rice (via 2 emails) reported:

May 21, 2018

OSI has reached an agreement with Central Hudson for a right of way from Port Ben South to the prison property on the O&W corridor. The Renegades Mountain Bike Club will be doing the rough clearing. I surveyed the corridor from the road with the chief Renegade and we will be scheduling some workdays soon. We will be working with our own crews only initially as we have a crew with chain saw safety training and first aid skills. Once we have it open a little we will ask for help from others.

May 23, 2018

OSI has acquired another section of the O&W and authorized the Renegades (Mountain Bike Club) to begin clearing it. We will have a workday on June 2, that anyone can help with. I have attached a map of the section; the road at the top is Foordmore Road. Here is the notice from Douglas of the Renegades.

Hello to all,

the Renegades are taking on a new project in the Town of Wawarsing. We will be starting to clear back brush and trees along a section of the O&W rail bed that Open Space Institute presently owns. It is situated between Foordmore road and Port Ben. Work efforts will be starting at the end closest to Foordmore Rd Saturday June 2nd at 9am and about every other Saturday throughout the summer. We will be working along side the D&H Canal Heritage Corridor Alliance in this enterprise.

If you plan to come out please plan on having some kind of sturdy footwear, long pants, gloves, drinking water and tick repellent. (NO SANDALS OR FLIP FLOPS) We plan on working till around noon.

Parking may be a issue if we have a large turnout so please let us know if you plan on attending so we can plan

the parking.

We will have a number of trail tools for folks to borrow. So if you can come out that's great. This is another step towards connecting the O&W rail trail to Kingston.

RSVP to renegadesmtb@gmail.com

Hank and Terry reported at the meeting that Dennis Doyle at County Planning is currently reworking the understated budget regarding the DOT grant of \$680,000. Trail will be surfaced in stone dust. Budget will also include signage. Budget process to take approximately two weeks.

ECF Easement Section. (Project number area W02)

Terry reported, the work being done by the Wawarsing highway dept. to resurface the trail along the prison easement continues. Some fill has been acquired from Eastern Correctional Facility. More fill is needed. An extension with Ulster County, for completion of the project, is substantially done.

Next meeting: Scheduled for Wednesday, June 27th at 6 pm at the Marbletown Community Center (MCC).

Adjournment: At 7:20 with motion from John and second from Ralph, all agreed to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted, Eric Stewart, Secretary and Carl Pezzino, Chair