

MILFORD UPPER CHARLES TRAIL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

[Ref: Meeting Agenda - Information Packet (Posted Town of Milford Website>Agenda 10/28/20,)]

A meeting of the Milford Upper Charles Trail Committee was held on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, via a Vast conference call. Reno DeLuzio being in the chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting were seven members: Reno DeLuzio, Robert Buckley, Brain Murray, Henry Papuga, Elaine Capuziello, Jeff Howard, and Frank Malangone.

Absent from the meeting were four members: Joseph Arcudi, Frank Pirrello Jr., Margaret Knowlton, and Rose Mary Natelson.

Chairman DeLuzio took a roll call of members of the Committee present. Present for the roll call were Reno DeLuzio, Robert Buckley, Brain Murray, Henry Papuga, Elaine Capuziello, Jeff Howard, and Frank Malangone.

Chairman DeLuzio read a statement from Charles D. Boddy, Jr., Esq., Town Counsel, regarding the conduct of public meetings via remote participation post COVID-19 under Governor Charlie Baker's March 12, 2020 Executive Order modifying certain requirements of the Open Meeting Law.

1. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Jeff Howard moved to accept the September 15, 2018 meeting minutes. Frank Melangano seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approve pre-authorized invoice payment

Chairman Deluzio presented an invoice in the amount of \$7,500 for hazardous tree removal in Feb, 2019 as recommended and supervised by the Tree Warden. The cost was shared by the Committee (\$4,000) and the Park Dept. (\$3,500). The payment was authorized for payment by the Chairman but requires the Committee's approval to comply with the Town Accountant's requirement. A motion was made by Robert Buckley to approve the invoice in the amount of \$4,000, seconded by Elaine Capuziello. Chairman DeLuzio took a roll call vote on the motion to approve the invoice.

Mr. Buckley	Aye	Mr. Papuga	Yes
Mr. Murray	Yes	Mr. Howard	Yes
Chairman DeLuzio	Aye	Mr. Malangone	Yes
Mrs. Capuziello	Yes		

The motion was carried unanimously, 7 in favor; 0 opposed.

3. Remaining Funds Allocation

Chairman DeLuzio reviewed the Fund Balance Expenditure Program Status (10-22-20). Of the 4 remaining open items, two are relegated to the Highway and/or Park Departments' recurring maintenance tasks. The hazardous tree removal task was completed. Future tree removal is part of the Highway and/or Park Departments' recurring maintenance tasks.

MILFORD UPPER CHARLES TRAIL COMMITTEE

The remaining open item was to stripe and sign a crosswalk on Rt. 85 in the vicinity of the Walden Woods Condominium northern entrance to an existing path over an easement on a lot on the easterly side of Rt. 85 thence to the Bike Trail. It turns out that a safe Rt 85 crossing involves much more than striping and signing the roadway. The Town is now pursuing the funding for this project.

Another element of this project involves the permitting and ADA compliant improvements to the existing path. Chairman DeLuzio therefore recommended the remaining \$4,000 in the Trail Capital Account be utilized for permitting and improvements of the existing path on Lot 6-0-8. Since this is an extension of the Bike Trail it is a legitimate expense.

Jeff Howard asked if the funds were be turned over for this purpose does that empty our account and provide for a termination of the Committee or is there something we would still have responsibility for overseeing. Chairman DeLuzio noted that we cannot turn over the funds because there is no way to be assured it would be spent for that purpose. He advised retaining control of the funds and they be applied to the environmental permitting, which will be spent first.

[the question on termination is addressed in Item 4].

Henry Papuga asked who will maintain the path. Chairman DeLuzio noted that although the Town has the ultimate responsibility for maintaining the path, he is confident that the Walden Woods residents will be good partners in maintaining the path.

A motion was made by Brain Murray, seconded by Robert Buckley to approve the expenditure of the remaining \$4,000 in the Milford Upper Charles Trail Capital Account for the purpose of environmental permitting and improvements of the existing path on lot 6-0-8.

Chairman DeLuzio took a roll call vote on the motion to approve the expenditure.

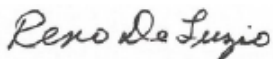
Mr. Buckley	Yes	Mr. Papuga	Yes
Mr. Murray	Yes	Mr. Howard	Yes
Chairman DeLuzio	Aye	Mr. Mr. Malangone	Yes
Mrs. Capuziello	Yes		

The motion was carried unanimously, 7 in favor; 0 opposed.

4. Committee Status Going Forward

Chairman DeLuzio noted that the vote to expend the reaming Trail funds would keep the Committee intact until the final invoices are approved. The Committee could then request the Selectmen to dissolve the Committee. However, he would like to prepare a final report before this request is made. Hopefully, the remaining funds will be expended by mid next year. He thought he could also get the report written and approved by the Committee by then. There was no objection.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



Reno DeLuzio, Chairman