

Marbletown Trails Committee minutes

February 27, 2024

6:00 P.M. Rondout Municipal Center

Attendees: Alan Zapolsky, Andy Lutz, Bob Vosper, Ron Pierce, Chris Schoonmaker, Jill McLean, John Michalski, Jessica Phelan, John Hart, Bill Eggers, Kerri Vitek and Oscar Velez. Guest, Tim Fiore Cottekill FD

Called meeting to order at 6:04PM

Segment Reports:

Rest Plaus South to town line

Jeremiah has completed ditching, clearing, and cutting back in this section. Large leaner remains.

Rest Plaus North to Rte. 213

The barrier is now in place above the concrete culvert in this section. Thank you, Jeremiah.

Leggett South to Rte 213

Resurfacing is needed in this section. Jill and Jess will talk to Jeremiah about replacing the kiosk at 213. The Trails team is ready to help.

Post meeting:

Jeremiah feels the trees need to be removed prior to the new kiosk being installed. In addition, Jill would like to revisit discussions with the property owner for trail improvements to the area across from Abbott Automotive.

Leggett North to K9 marker

The Trails team is looking to expand the parking area at Leggett trail head. The Town already owns the property. Jill is working with Bill Eggers and the Highway department.

Cottekill South to K9 Marker

John Michalski reports that many trail users are leaving poop filled doggie bags in this section. The group agrees it is a trail wide issue. The committee will try a sign reminding trail users to carry it out. Mr. Pierce suggested a sign stating *leave no trace*.

Cottekill North

Special guest, Tim Fiore announced that they are happy to allow the town to expand the O&W parking area. The Town will then put in a fence to protect the FD's septic and the leach field area. Tim from Cottekill FD requested the parking area be paved after.

Marcott North to Town Line

Jo and Bob report drones over this area. Jill and Jess will check into what the regulations are.

College Connector:

The team agrees that the surface is rough. Jill and Jess will talk to highway about this surface.

Creek Walk:

Benches and bollards will be installed this spring.

Post meeting:

Jeremiah has started install on one of the benches.

New Business

- The Marbletown Trails Committee is looking for a secretary. Kerri volunteered to be the secretary.
Thank you, Kerri
- Updates to the contact list
- Ebike and drone regulations – Committee will research the rules of the Ashokan and Wallkill Valley Rail Trail.
 - Post meeting:
 - Chris has found that at the Minnewaska State Park Preserve, Class 1 E bikes are allowed on carriage trails where normal biking is permitted. Also, Chris found that most E bikes, class 1-3, are considered non-motorized vehicles.
 - Jessica found that on the Ashokan Rail Trail website (ART) it says all E bikes are allowed. The website states that if speeds become too excessive, a ban may be made to certain E bike classes by the County.
 - In addition, Class 1 E bikes are allowed on the WVRT, but class 2 E bikes are not permitted on the WVRT. (Wallkill Valley Rail Trail)
 - **However, Jess found that according to the Empire State Trails website via the WVRT site, NYS enacted E-Bike legislation in 2020. The state law bans Class 3 E-Bikes on trails.**
 - These decisions are made by state and local government that own the off road trail sections.
 - This is an excerpt from the Empire State Trails website:
 - To date most have not adopted formal policies, meaning E-Bikes are neither explicitly allowed nor prohibited on those trail sections.
 - What we do know is that class 3 E bikes are not permitted on trails in NYS.
- Sweatshirt and tee shirt order. (Sizes collected)

Jessica moved to adjourn the meeting- 7:16pm

Alan 2nd

Meeting adjourned.