

Town of Vernon
Hockanum River Linear Park Committee
Minutes – September 26, 2014

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Present: Members: Ann Letendre, Ginny Gingras, Joe King, George Arthur; Bruce Dinnie, Staff Advisor. Meeting at 120 South St, Lottie Fisk Building. 14 NOV 20 AM 8:13

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 am by Chairman Ann Letendre.

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of August 8, 2014 meeting were approved. Motion by King, second by Arthur.

2. Old Business

A. Hockanum River Trail Reports

a. Refer to Arthur and Bellingham reports (attached) for details

B. Review of needs – Hockanum River Parks and Parking Areas

- a. Dart Hill South to Lyman Bridge – George and Joe re-routed the orange trail and worked with Bruce Watt to redo the trail map; Tracy Gorecki will remove burning bush
- b. Dart Hill North to WPCA – area behind Paul's Pizza changed to one trail; loop removed
- c. Walgreen Corner – Joe and George checked the site, it's in good shape
- d. Saxony Mill Park – Reported in good shape
- e. Paper Mill Corner Park – Joe and George cleared the bank to open the view; 2-day job
- f. West Main St – Joe and George cleared a couple of trees along the river, but the river trail will not be reconstructed, benches torn up by vandals; trail re-routed to W. Main St
- g. Tankerhoosen Dam (Phoenix St) – Joe and George spent a full day clearing the area, needed use of a pole saw
- h. Other parking areas – no activity

C. Current Projects – Status

- a. Report – Rec Trails Grant for Bridge and Boardwalk: Bruce will contact Jay Silva to come out and evaluate; Ann will check budget to see if Friends can pay cost; he will also ask about Lyman Bridge

D. Potential Projects and New Grant Applications –

- 1. Rec. Trails Application – P&R Blueways Trail: Bruce said we did not get the grant
- 2. Rockville Heritage Trail Extension – Talcott Park – no discussion

E. River Protection: Actions, Public Education – No activity.

3. New Business –

- a. Ed Dresner Memorial – Rescheduled for early May, 2015.
- b. Blueways – progress, map - Jerry Kinsman and volunteers cleared downstream to Hockanum Boulevard; Bruce and Jerry will ask Cliff Chapman about getting help with equipment to clear area at Hockanum Mansions.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 am, motion by Ginny, second by Joe.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Letendre, Chairperson

VERNON GREENWAYS VOLUNTEERS REPORT

August 9, 2014 to September 26, 2014

Trail Maintenance Team – Aug 14 thru Sep 18

Five work parties to repair the Rail Trail from the Bolton Town line and heading back toward Church Street. Work parties scheduled for every Thursday evening.

Weed Whacking Team – Aug 9 thru Aug 30

Three outings to complete Dart Hill North blue orange side trail.

Wild Flower Plantings on Rail Trail – Aug 15 thru Sep 9

Tour of selected sites with master gardener. Two sites were weeded, cardboard placed, bumper crop/top soil spread. Seeds to be planted in mid-October.

Mural at Route 84 Underpass on the Rail Trail– Aug 26 & Sep 6

Committee Members Established - Sandra Justin – Vernon Arts Commission, Don Bellingham – Vernon Greenways Volunteers, Alan Slobodian – Town of Vernon and Jeff Slobodian – Lead Artist. Class to be conducted in mid-October for middle school and high school students.

Beetlemania on the Rail Trail – Aug 23

Attended by 26 including 7 high school students. Examined 529 potential trees for infestation and found no infestation.

Dart Hill North Work Party – Aug 27 & 28

Removed by the roots overgrowth of weeds and invasives from the DHN parking lot and trail head on Dart Hill Road. Second day, weed wacked remainder of the trail head.

ARTHUR REPORT – HRLP

AUG 9 – Sep 26, 2014

1. We painted the relocated HRLP trail segments that follow the stone dust path and painted Hockanum Blvd blazes into woods to Naek Rd.
2. We cleared the trees along the shore line at Paper Mill Park, and disposed of at Transfer Station.
3. We cut three overhanging trees along the parking lot at West Main Park.
4. We cut many overhanging trees along driveway and parking lot at Phoenix Mill Park