

Town of Vernon
Hockanum River Linear Park Committee
Minutes – May 22, 2015

Present: Members: Ann Letendre, Ginny Gingras, Joe King, George Arthur
Staff: Bruce Dinnie, Director P&R; Dave Smith, Town Engineer

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Meeting at 120 South St, Lottie Fisk Building.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Chairman Ann Letendre.

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of March 27, 2015 meeting were approved. Motion by Gingras, second by King.

2. Old Business

A. Hockanum River Trail Reports

- a. Refer to Arthur and Bellingham reports (attached) for details
- b. Don notes that the Vernon Greenway Volunteers Annual Meeting will be Tuesday April 22nd at the Teen Center. Work continues on the mural project.

B. Review of needs – Hockanum River Parks and Parking Areas – No activity during winter.

- a. Dart Hill South to Lyman Bridge
- b. Dart Hill North to WPCA
- c. Walgreen Corner
- d. Saxony Mill Park
- e. Paper Mill Corner Park
- f. West Main St
- g. Tankerhoosen Dam (Phoenix St)
- h. Other parking areas

C. Current Projects – Status

- a. Report – Friends of HRLP Rec Trails Grant for Bridge and Boardwalk (\$175,000):
As reported by the Friends HRLP: Dave Smith has done research on suspension bridges. He thinks such a bridge is doable and cites the type shown on the website "Bridges for Prosperity". Ann will arrange a meeting with the Mayor to discuss the project and obtain Town approval for the work since the projects are on Town-owned land. George spent 13 hours clearing the trail area on Pleasantview Dr for the boardwalk. All but 250 feet can be walked. The boardwalk will be needed for the 250 feet. Ann will request a 2-year grant extension.

D. Potential Projects and New Grant Applications -

- a. Rockville Heritage Trail Extension – Talcott Park – no discussion

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

- F. Blueways Trail – Jerry Kinsman has been making great progress on clearing the river for the canoe/kayak trail.

3. New Business –

- a. Ed Dresner Memorial – Rescheduled to June 10th. Ginny will contact Fay Dresner.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am, motion by Ginny, second by George.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Letendre, Chairperson

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VERNON GREENWAYS VOLUNTEERS REPORT

March 27, 2015 to May 22, 2015

Recruitment

Two functions March 28 Health Fair at the middle school and the April 22 Spring Kickoff Meeting at the Teen Center resulted in membership growing from 53 to 66.

Spring Kickoff Meeting

I lead off discussing with what happened in 2014 and what is coming in 2015. Jean Luddy presented "Vernon and Rockville then and now" a historical comparison. Post event dessert items were served.

Mural Project at Route 84 Underpass

The P & W \$5,000 Grant was approved. We are awaiting arrival so we can purchase supplies. Training of the students is progressing. A meeting will be held on May 21st to decide time frames of sequential events.

Rebuild a Bridge

A bridge in Dart Hill South Park will be repaired on-site or moved a few yards. Finalizing of procedures from George Arthur, Ray Nelson and Gary Levitt are in process and are subject to approval from Bruce Dinnie.

Prepare Plantings

Two of our eight plantings have been edged, weeded and mulched (14 people attended). A third will be done on May 21st. The final five will be done in subsequent weeks.

Work Teams

Trail Maintenance Team could begin as early as the week of May 25 and the Weed Whacking Team in early June.

Arthur Report

March 27 to May 22, 2015

I spent 13 hrs work opening up the Hockanum River trail from the Lyman bridge south to Pleasantview Drive. The trail is cleared about 1/2 way to Pleasantview.