

**Town of Vernon
Hockanum River Linear Park Committee**

Minutes – January 27, 2017

Present: Members: Joe King, George Arthur, Ann Letendre, Ginny Gingras
Staff: Marty Sittler

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Meeting at 120 South St, Lottie Fisk Building.

(HRLP meeting called to order at 10:30 am, following the Friends HRLP meeting at 9:30 am.)

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of November 18, 2016 regular meeting; motion by Joe, second by Ginny, approved unanimously.

2. Old Business

A. Hockanum River Trail Reports

Refer to Arthur report (attached) for details. Don Bellingham noted that the Vernon Greenway Volunteers Spring Kickoff meeting will be held April 26th.

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

- a. Dart Hill South to Lyman Bridge – OK
- b. Dart Hill North to WPCA - 1 trail needs to be reblazed
- c. Walgreen Corner OK, someone is taking care of the area
- d. Saxony Mill Park OK.
- e. Paper Mill Corner Park – Need to check.
- f. West Main St - OK
- g. Tankerhoosen Dam (Phoenix St) - OK
- h. Rails to Trails – Rockville spur has been cleared and widened

C. Current Projects – Status

Report from Friends HRLP on Grant for Bridge and Boardwalk

Windsorville Rd Suspended Bridge (from Friends HRLP meeting)

Permits still needed are (1) PZC special permit to work in a flood hazard area; and (2) DEEP flood management certificate. Construction is delayed until July-Aug. Dave Smith will begin to order materials for the suspended bridge in March.

Pleasantview to Manchester Property Easements needed

No action

Pleasantview Boardwalks

A new 16-ft at-grade boardwalk over a wet marsh area was constructed by Joe and George. The boardwalk was built with the re-purposed steel bleachers from Parks & Rec. George completed plans for construction of walking bridge on concrete Lyman bridge. The large rock installed by Mr. Chapman to block the bridge will need to be removed; George will contact him. George noted that the marsh area site where the 250 ft. boardwalk will be constructed is about 3 ft to hardpan in some areas, otherwise about 1.5 ft to hardpan. Ann will contact boardwalk companies for quotes for both on-grade and elevated boardwalks for the 250 ft. boardwalk.

D. Potential Projects and New Grant Applications

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

- b. 19 Grove Street – Area is cleared; opportunity exists for grant to do landscaping and park design

E. River Protection: Actions, Public Education

- a. Update 129 Talcottville Rd – the development was approved by P&Z; a conservation easement of about 8 acres will be given to the Town.

F. Blueways Trail – No new action.

3. New Business –

- a. None

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am, motion by Joe, second by George.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Letendre, Chairman

ARTHUR REPORT – NOV 18 to JAN 27, 2017

1. Joe and I built the planned 16 ft steel boardwalk that was necessary just north of the recently built 16 ft bridge on the Mansion-Pleasantview HRLP section. Six man-hours.
I have enough of the P&R obsolete bleacher steel channel to build the planned short (8 ft) boardwalk just south of the 16 ft bridge. I don't plan to use any more of the steel channels so P&R can continue disposing of them.
2. The inspection of the existing 22 ft concrete bridge over the Hockanum River at the Mansions was completed on 11-3-2016. Our engineers decided the concrete bridge would adequately support a new overlaid wooden bridge. I revised my design and drawings for the bridge. It will be constructed of pressure treated lumber, will be 24 ft long, the deck will be 4 ft wide and will be centered on the concrete. There will be 4 ft high railings on both sides with 2x2 balusters. The railings will have additional 5 ft support boards on both sides (10 total) that will extend from the top of the rails down to the edge of the concrete. The supports will also prevent people from walking on the concrete on either side of the wooden deck. Twenty-three man-hours.
Future action:
 - a. I plan to pick up the majority of materials piecemeal because it has to be cut and and/or assembled prior to the bridge build date. The estimated cost for this material is \$521.
 - b. The estimated cost for the balance of material (delivered to the site on build date) is \$394. The total is therefore \$915.
 - c. The large-heavy rock blocking the entrance to the existing concrete bridge will have to be moved prior to construction. People walk around the rock now.
 - d. I believe the construction will require two consecutive days and will require volunteers on both dates. The framework would be done on the first day (3 or 4 carpenters) and the second day would complete any nailing/screwing of deck boards and balusters (laborers). The dates will be early spring.
3. Ellington. As reported in November 2016, I completed the walking of the existing Ellington trails with GPS and provided the GIS shape-files to be included in the Mapgeo site. Ellington will advise asap when planned new trails are completed. Their HRLP trail is complete. I prepared a preliminary map.
4. Trails Day Saturday June 3 – 4, 2017 One hike will probably be led by CT Water Co on the Shenipsit Trail along Shenipsit Lake. Rich Durkee will lead a P&R activity for children. I will may lead a hike and am considering either one for HRLP or an exercise hike in Valley Falls.