

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee  
Thursday June 6, 2019  
Harvey Wheeler Community Center

Meeting called to order 7:01pm

Committee members present: Jim Lyon, Kent Carlson, Carol Steele, and John Soden

Also in attendance: Barbara Pike, Marcia Rasmussen, Janet Hammond, Terri Ackerman

Recorder: John Soden

1. Minutes approved as amended.
2. Phase 2A, 2B, 2C update.

Phase 2A Update: This phase of the trail construction has been completed and is open for all to enjoy!

2. Phase 2B Update: The Notice of Intent under the Wetlands Protection and Rivers Protection Acts application was opened by the Natural Resources Commission at the May 15th meeting and the hearing was continued to June 19 to allow the applicant time to evaluate or provide the following:

- Grading plans.
- Evaluate the wildlife culvert location, which is currently only 2 feet above groundwater. Determine whether the wildlife crossing should be at the Nashoba Brook Crossing. MassDOT was going to see if that culvert replacement is on the TIP (shouldn't it be, since it has a weight restriction and trucks are diverted down School St and Laws Brook Road?).
- Use of stone dust rather than asphalt or milling mulch shoulders where grades allow.
- Consider whether there are any alternatives to the proposed chain link fence with barbed wire proposed along a length of the trail (at the State Police mounted unit facility).

GPI has scheduled a coordination meeting with Acton and Concord town staff and representatives from the State Police Mounted Unit for Monday, June 10th for a final review of the plans before this project goes to bid. This will be an opportunity to discuss maintenance of the chain link fence and other items of concern to the State Police and Town staff.

3. Phase 2C Updates:

- a) Keolis has completed paving the trail crossing of the commuter rail line. D. W. White (contractor for Phase 2C of the BFRT) is waiting for delivery of the remaining granite posts and markers before final mobilization to complete the trail.
- b) Additional landscaping was installed on Thursday, May 30th opposite the Junction Park extension location. These materials were initially requested last summer, but the change order was not approved by MassDOT. Through coordination with Concord Public Works, the Green Thumbs and Garden Club, the materials were ordered from Bigelow Nursery and Cavicchio

Greenhouses and delivered on May 28th. Members of the Concord Garden Club were on site at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 30th to help locate the materials, which were planted by Concord Public Works Parks and Tree crew. Funding for the plant materials was available from the CPA funds allocated in 2018 for the BFRT.

c) The Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety brochure has been posted on the BFRT Advisory Committee's website and is available for download <https://concordma.gov/980/Bruce-Freeman-Rail-Trail-Committee>. The Planning Division will have copies available in print once a final completion date for the trail has been set. The map is still pending.

d) The Town's Public Information Officer Erin Stevens has prepared an informational sign asking people to 'stop and walk' their bikes when in a pedestrian congested area such as Junction Park or on the trail. These info signs have been shared with the Concord Public Schools and the Planning Division will be printing large format versions to be posted in the 'sandwich board' sign board at Junction Park.

e) Eagle Scout candidate Nolan Roberts is in the process of preparing a memo to the Concord Select Board for acceptance of the Bicycle Fix-it station proposed for installation along the trail near Main Street. He has requested assistance from GPI project Manager Matt Kearney to be sure the foundation and pad are suitable for the station

f) Concord-On-Tap proponent Janet Rothrock anticipates providing an updated water map next week.

4. Phase 2D Sudbury: Transitions are underway in Sudbury. Conservation Coordinator Debbie Dineen is retiring this month after serving the Town of Sudbury for 36 years. Her replacement is none other than Concord's Assistant Natural Resources Director Lori Capone! Also, Select Board member Len Simon has stepped down, after serving on the Board for six years. Environmental Planner Beth Suedmeyer reports that Sudbury has contracted with Jacobs Engineering who is currently developing the 25% structural design for the 2 bridges (Pantry Brook and Hop Brook crossings) and a boardwalk section (south of Hudson Road). In July, the design team will be doing geotechnical borings to collect information to inform the technical design. The bridge and boardwalk designs will be advanced shortly thereafter. We are also developing the RFP for the final design contract; the project is on the 2022 TIP and MassDOT has a current estimated advertising date of Dec. 2021.

### 3. Operations & Maintenance

Safety brochures have been finalized and will be printed soon.

No date has been set for the Phase 2C ribbon cutting.

### 4. West Concord Open House

Steve Izra sent his appreciation for Suzanne Knight attending the open house on behalf of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee. West Concord projects were discussed and explained to the public.

### 5. Membership & Committee Election

Jim Lyon was unanimously elected to serve as committee chair for the upcoming year. No recorder was selected, rather the 4 other members of the committee will rotate minute taking duties among themselves.

6. Member Comments/Committee Liaisons/Correspondence

No committee reports or correspondence to report.

Marcia reported on a walk through of Gerow Park. There is discussion in regards to another bike repair station and the possibility of parking lot access changes. BFRTAC should attend.

7. Next committee meeting: Wednesday July 10, 2019. Note this will be the second Wednesday of the month.

8. Public comment:

Janet Hammond, 3 Riverside Avenue, asked about additional signs for 'Private Property' and 'Sensitive Wildlife Area' on the trail abutting her property. Marcia will work with her to help resolve this issue. Possible additional plantings in the fall

Terri Ackerman introduced herself as the new liaison from the Select Board.

The meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.