

Subject to Approval

Minutes of January 16, 2019 meeting of the Rockland Preserve Management Committee

Members Present: Joe Oslander, Dave Okomoto, Jason Engelhardt, Rich Nace
Meeting was called to order at 7:38 PM.

Minutes: Minutes of the 11/20/18 meeting were approved, 7:35 PM meetings@madisonct.org

Committee recommends that Joe Oslander remain as committee chair and Jason Engelhardt remain as secretary.

Erratica trail reroute is complete and Jon is finalizing it with arrows.

Road inspections: Erosion concerns on roads, including the orange trail from 79 entrance both splitting West and South. Erosion also a concern on Dead Hill Road from North Gate to Dead Hill Station.

79 parking lot is developing large potholes, need to be filled with leveling agent.

Portopotty has not recently been cleaned out, white stones placed inside by someone.

Joe reminds committee of importance of the Coan Pond reports, and by looking for concerns of pollution, water contamination. Reports are up to date and in good order.

About \$1000 was donated by Bimble's toward trail maintenance. Committee sends appreciation to Bimble's for their long-standing relationship with Rockland.

Pump track is going to have a fence installed in Spring 2019, using donation funds. Jason and Joe will meet with Scot about recent donations and about the plans for the fence.

Committee discussed shed options and has resolved that we need a shed located at 79 entrance. It should be paid for with donated funds.

CIP is looking promising for 2019-20 Rockland Natural Playground. Committee would like to form a subgroup to determine planning for the playground. Committee would like permission to recruit a small group of adults from the Rockland abutting neighborhoods that would help to inform neighbors and gather feedback on installations. With permission, Jason would like to form that committee of 5-10 adults with young children in North Madison.

Thanks to Caden Kozub from Guilford for the high quality kiosk installed at Dead Hill Road.

E-bikes are increasingly present. The opinion of the committee is consistent with state regulations that e-bikes of any classification are motorized vehicles and therefore not allowed. Temporary signs are in place and permanent signage should be installed in 2019, we would like to have all signage approved by beach and rec and approved as needed.

Jason is planning on working on a new map in 2019.

Jon has asked to build several trails including a climbing hill from Dead Hill that would avoid eroded problem areas and also divert cyclists from other users. He is also asking for a “flow trail” next to Mary’s Ghost Trail and also a small recreation area option on the northeast portion next to the 79 bridge.

The committee recommends that we have Jon flag the Dead Hill Road and if it is indeed a safe and appropriate alternate, it should be planned and approved prior to the new map this spring. The committee also is strongly opposed to the flow trail and recreational reroute trail. On the Dead Hill option, we should walk it for approval in a reasonable timeframe. On the other two, the committee votes to not pursue further conversations.

Dave Okomoto has been clearing blocked streams throughout Rockland. Thanks Dave!

Meeting Adjourned 9:15 PM

Next meeting Monday, March 11, 2019, 7:00 p.m. Ongoing, we will plan on 2nd Monday, odd numbered months, 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Engelhardt