

PTC Meeting Minutes February 15, 2022

Attendees: Jason Angell, Emily May Cheadle, Bruce Croushore, Tracy Danicich, John Pavlik, Jenny Kempson, Shamala Kandiah, MJ Martin, Rebeca Ramirez, Pete Salmansohn, Marianne Sullivan, Paul Thompson, James Turpin, Jennifer Wagner

Rebeca opened the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Laura reported on the feasibility study, informing us that Weston & Sampson was working on a map of alternative routes. Stakeholder engagement will be planned for late spring.

Rebeca asked if anyone had connections to the owner of properties on or near the proposed trail route. Asked if anyone had contacts to please inform co-chairs so that we can continue landowner outreach.

Rebeca reported on meeting with keeper of Philipstown Park, David Gordon for background and feedback related to the proposed trail routes. She shared that he was well informed about the land/geography, history of the area that we are exploring and that ideas of concern were the brook, steep areas, some large areas of private property, outcroppings, and streams. Co-chairs expressed gratitude to him for making time to meet with them and asked him to do a walk through the Philipstown Park area; other areas may be added pending landowner approval. Co-chairs will finalize the planning and will circle back with logistics.

Rebeca reported on the committee's website, noting efforts to design and troubleshoot the new site. Jenny Kempson volunteered her husband to help with the website if we need additional support. Jennifer Wagner said she will be updating the graphics on the home page.

Laura reported on the Community Preservation Plan Task Force including the summary of the meeting with Hudson Highlands Land Trust, which would like to include our trail in their preservation map.

Jenny Kempson reported on the exploration of Complete Streets and "expanding the scope." She shared a menu and proposed concepts for feedback related to PTC's possible activities in support of complete streets in Philipstown. These include looking at complete streets in the context of 1) Philipstown Trail development, 2) a full master plan for complete streets, and 3) a creation of a town advisory board for complete streets in

Philipstown. She added that much political and community support will be needed as well as funding. Discussion ensued. Support was voiced, questions were asked including inter-municipal issues and decision making and next steps.

Jason Angell reported on the meeting with Garrison Union Free School District & the Desmond Fish Library. New library Director, DeDe Farabaugh and Superintendent, Carl Albano are supportive of the PTC goals and would like to help move things forward in the area surrounding the library and school. Stakeholder conversations is a next step.

James Turbin reported on the More Trails “expanding the scope” group. The group sees four elements, 1) explore possibilities for more trails especially east/west, 2) look at greater use of existing and underused trails, 3) look at shorter connectors, and 4) the bike rack initiative. They will be starting with an inventory of trails, mapping them, updating existing work PTC has done, and conduct an inventory of bike racks. MJ described a proposal of smaller trails connecting to the main trail spine (visualized as a “comb”) or key destinations such as the trail from Haldane campus to Little Stony Point. Paul discussed connecting to the Garrison Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival site. Discussion ensued. Support voiced.

Jason announced a community wide Earth Day plan event.