

Trails Committee Minutes  
December 14, 2016 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Richardson; Supervisors Preston Allen, Matt Veitch, Tom Wood, and Chairman of the Board Mo Wright; Jason Kemper, Planning; Press.

Chairman Richardson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Veitch the minutes of the August 10, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Kemper gave a brief update on the following:

**County Forestry Program**

The first installment and deposit was received for the parcel in Northumberland. Equipment will be moving into that parcel.

They are working with the equine community in the Town of Providence. A parking lot will be completed in spring 2017.

**Zim Smith Trail**

Mr. Kemper said that they closed on the Pan Am property last Friday. He gave an update to the Town of Halfmoon last week. He is working with Supervisor Tollisen to organize a public information meeting. He is also working with the Mechanicville School District who will be expanding their bus garage and doing some athletic fields. They are trying to work out the details on a potential joint parking lot. Mr. Richardson said that the school district will be doing a lot of renovations in the future. The bus garage is presently in the front of the building and they would like to move it to the back and have access to the trail.

Mr. Kemper said that they were very fortunate to received \$4.9M in federal funding. They also applied for a CFA Application and they got notification last week that they received another \$500,000. Mr. Kemper will come back to the committee with a list of priorities once he finds out exactly they can spend the CFA funds on. Mr. Kemper said that they have had an initial meeting with CP Rail regarding property acquisitions. Mr. Richardson commended Mr. Kemper on a job well done.

**Hudson Hoosick Partnership**

Mr. Richardson said that they are hoping to pour cement for the foundation by next week, weather permitting. They are prepared to cover it and ensure it cures properly over the winter. Mr. Richardson commended Mr. Wood for holding onto the land for the project. By late May, early June, the Timber Frame Guild will be back.

## **Champlain Canalway Trail**

Mr. Richardson said that a lot of communities have been working on this trail for a long time. There are a few miles already completed in the Village of Waterford to behind Momentive Performance Materials. The City of Mechanicville owns property behind Momentive. The Town of Halfmoon is beginning to work on their section, which should come up to Lower Newtown Road. This will eventually enter into the City of Mechanicville on the south end. The Main Street in Mechanicville has already been designated as part of the trail system. As you leave Mechanicville, the Town of Stillwater already has plans and funding ready to build the trail through the Town. The Town of Stillwater trail will come just up to the National Park. The Town of Saratoga already have approximately ½ mile completed in this area. Mr. Wood said that they got a county grant for what they call the Surrender March Trail, this area is cleared and should be completed by summer 2017. The National Park service is working on the next section from the end of the Surrender March Trail to the Schuyler House. North from the Schuyler House to the Dix Bridge is already done. Over the Dix Bridge, approximately 10 miles have been completed on the road from Greenwich towards Fort Edward. A group from that area are talking to the Canal Corporation to attempt to move part of the trail off the road. The Village of Fort Edward is working on the trail going through the Village. Whitehall recently received a grant which will help toward a study to extend the trail.

Mr. Kemper said that of the nine trail grant program from 2015, three grants remain. The Town of Wilton submitted their reimbursement, he has an executed contract from the Town of Clifton Park. City of Saratoga Springs is still outstanding however they recently were awarded CFA funds so they should be ready to move forward. For 2016, all contracts are in hand, executed and waiting for reimbursement to begin. Mr. Kemper said that any projects held over from 2015 and 2016 are rolled over into a reserve account.

Mr. Richardson thanked the committee and staff for their participation in 2016.

**On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Allen the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Therese Connolly  
Legislative Clerk