



Trails & Open Space Committee

Wednesday, October 4, 2023 4PM

40 McMaster Street, Ballston Spa, NY

Minutes

Present: Chairman Joe Grasso; Committee Members Eric Connolly, Matthew Veitch.

Absent: Tara Gaston, Ed Kinowski.

Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Stephanie Hodgson, County Administrator; Michelle Granger, County Attorney; Jason Kemper, Kim Lambert, Planning.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the minutes of the September 6, 2023 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Connolly, to authorize the transfer of funds from the County Trails Development Reserve and amending the 2023 County budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

This will allow for payment of 2022 trail projects for the Town of Malta in the amount of \$8,653, and the Town of Stillwater in the amount of \$10,000.

Mr. Kemper gave an overview of the Open Space/Farmland Protection and Trail projects.

Mr. Kemper reported that the Agricultural District inclusion period is currently underway.

Discussion took place regarding potential changes to the Farmland Protection and Open Space Program application process. There are currently requirements that are limiting the ability for applicants to maximize donations on properties. A revised application will be brought to the Committee for consideration for the 2024 applications. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Connolly requested bike crossing stencils for a crosswalk in the Town of Ballston. Mr. Kemper will follow up with DPW.

Mr. Kemper noted that an update from the Zim Smith project will be provided at the November meeting. Mr. Connolly provided an update on the ZIM smith trail project in the Town of Ballston.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Clerk of the Board