

## **Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee**

January 18, 2018 Harvey Wheeler Community Center

### **Meeting Minutes**

Committee Member Attendees: Kent Carlson, Jim Lyon, Suzanne Knight, John Soden

Also in attendance: Barbara Pike, Dean Sullender

Recorder: John Soden

Call to Order: 7:04 pm

**1. Review of Minutes from December 7, 2017 Meeting**, approved as amended.

**2. Phase 2A, 2B, 2C Update.** As prepared by Marcia Rasmussen.

1. Phase 2A Update: All is quiet; winter is nigh.

2. Phase 2B Update: The MassDOT Standard Contract Form for Agreement No. 101877 between the Town of Concord and MassDOT to complete the Final Structural Design Plans for the BFRT Phase 2B was signed by Town Manager Christopher Whelan and returned to the State on December 28, 2017. MassDOT Project Manager Sreelatha Allam reports that the agreement has been signed by the MassDOT Chief and all DOT approvals have been received; notice will be sent out to GPI and Concord early next week (January 22, 2018).

Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) staff has continued working on Phase 2B, including: preparing 75% Highway Design plans; addressing comments from 25% design; updating the corridor model; working on sketch plan resubmittals to address State Bridge Engineer comments; design and calculations for two bridges.

The Friends of the BFRT continue to ask about the design of a ramp and associated costs for design and construction; however, this discussion is not yet ripe because the site visit with GPI to understand the existing system of trails has not yet been held and the design of the bridges is not yet approved by MassDOT. The Friends are also interested possibly funding additional bike racks. I suggested that they reach out to the West Concord Advisory Committee (WCAC member Carlene Hempel) because WCAC is in discussion with others in West Concord about possible locations for and design of street furniture, including bike racks.

3. Phase 2C Update:

a. Construction activity has ceased for the winter.

b. After meeting with Concord Public Works, the Green Thumbs have requested a meeting with me to discuss the landscaping of the extension of Junction Park, possibly at 3:00 p.m. next Tuesday, January 23rd.

c. Easements:

(1) Town Meeting approved the easement of town land to the MBTA near the West Concord Depot. We are still waiting for the MBTA to approve the final easement language before the document can be signed and recorded.

4. Phase 2D Sudbury: No new or updated information available from the Town of Sudbury web site or MassDOT Project Information web site.

**3. Trail educational outreach and enforcement**

Trail use remains heavy, but have seen some improvement.

**4. FOBFRT, GPI & Connecting Path**

The Friends have not met with GPI, but have contacted Marcia about the design of a ramp on the Phase 2B bridge and associated costs. See above on Phase 2B update.

**5. BFRT Concord Journal Articles**

No new articles to report.

**6. Member Comments/Committee Liaisons/Correspondence**

Kent reminded members to complete ethics filing and the biannual online ethics course.

Jim reported that the White Pond Committee's new charter was approved by the Select Board.

Kent shared a photo of the trail use counter at North Station.

**7. Next Committee Meeting: Thursday March 1, 2018**

**8. Public Comment**

**9. Meeting adjourned 7:53pm.**

There was some discussion about the historical content items. Some items have disappeared and others that the contractor has removed for safe keeping during construction.