

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Sub Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2022

Meeting Held via Zoom

Call to Order

- The January 26, 2022 meeting of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Sub Committee was called to order at 7:00PM

Attendees

- Sub Committee Members: Nat Welch, Tracy Hansen, Adrienne Boardman
- Town Representatives: Marcia Rasmussen, Director of Planning and Land Management
- 2 additional participants: Richard Fahlander (BFRTAC Co-Chair) and 1 member of the public
- Recorder: Adrienne Boardman

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- A motion was made to approve the January 18, 2022 meeting minutes and seconded
 - The January 18, 2022 minutes were approved unanimously by roll call vote

Discussion of Survey, Flier, and Promotion

- Survey has been created: an electronic version using Google Forms and a printable version
- Flier has been created/printed to promote the survey with instructions for electronic completion (QR code) or where to leave/mail the paper survey
- Physical completed distribution at: Town Hall, Main Library (pending confirmation), Fowler Library, Council of Aging, 7-11 Store, posted in Junction Park, Club Car Cafe, Concord Park, Debra's Natural Gourmet, Kiosk on BFRT
 - Seeking support from Marcia to use sandwich board to promote within the Park
 - Suggestion for Nashoba Bakery and discussion around whether posting would be permitted by train platform (Marcia confirmed it is not permitted)
 - Nat also to connect with Woods Hill Table and look into ways to share with residents at Brookside apartments
- Discussion around end date for fliers and surveys
- Electronic Distribution
 - Summary from Adrienne including plans to post link to survey on Nextdoor and appropriate community groups on Facebook
 - Nat to coordinate with Barbara Pike (Friends of BF)

- Comments from Public:
 - Dorrie Kehoe (51 McArthur Road) - Referenced the letters that concerned citizens and groups had sent to the Select Board and suggested that the Sub Committee reach out to update them on plans including:
 - Concord Children's Center (Adrienne to email Executive Director and West Concord Director)
 - Membership list of Concord Green Thumbs (suggestion to reach out individually)
 - Discuss and encourage input from Concord town engineer (Ron Houlsinger)
 - Janet Anderson, Phil Posner (Nat suggest that Dorrie help disseminate information)
 - Suggested fliers also be displayed at Concord Teacakes

Goals for First Public Meeting/Forum

- Discussion on virtual or hybrid meeting - consensus to hold a fully virtual meeting
- Determination to have Q&A vs Chat - Marcia to try to demo features at next meeting
- Discussion around use of the Polls feature during the Public Forum
- Brainstorm ways to capture questions (Tracy to investigate further)
- Content:
 - Agenda
 - Objectives and Expectations
 - BFRTAC Overview
 - Presentation of Overview
 - including plot plan with current conditions
 - Key Issues
 - Preliminary Data
 - Proposed Solutions to React To
 - Example of Short Term
 - Example of Long Term
- Proposal for 3-4 meetings (to be discussed further at next meeting)
 - Meeting 1: Introduction
 - Meeting 2: Short Term & Long Term
 - Meeting 3: Test Solutions / Feasibility
- Discussion around how we fold BFRTAC meetings into these plans
- Emphasis to cover both Short Term solutions (needed before bridge opening) and planning for Long Term (physically changing the space)
- Short Term:
 - Barriers (planters, fencing, ballards, gates, tables) - anything that can be moved in winter to allow for plowing

- Signage
- Increase difficulty of riding through
- Ballards
- Signage
- Long Term:
 - Physical change the route of the path

Planning to continue at the next Sub Committee Meeting on February 1 at 7PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28PM