

# **Countywide Trails Initiative**

**Notes**

**Thursday, February 17, 2017 at 3 pm**

**Saratoga County Planning Office**

**West High Street, Ballston Spa**

***\*to-do’s in green***

Attendees:

Katie Petronis – Chair, PLAN

Jason Kemper – County

Larry Woolbright – Milton

Ralph Keating – Halfmoon

Tina Carton – Saratoga Springs

John Mitchell – Halfmoon

Jim Ruhl – Clifton Park

***\*Katie to send Jason an email and ask for large maps of countywide trails for future meetings***

1. **Issues Discussion**
   1. Funding opportunities
      1. County Trails Funding - No funding was placed in the 2017 budget. Katies asks what would help make the case next year? Jason - Specific projects teed up, getting in touch with the Committee Chair early on. It was unfortunate that municipalities didn’t get as many applications in as would have been needed to meet the prior year’s available funding
      2. Open Space Funding – Funded at $150,000
      3. State grants –
      4. OPRHP Recreational Trails Program, 80/20 match. Snowmobile clubs have applied in the past. ***Katie will look up terms and timeline and send to the group***
2. **2017 Goals for the County Board of Supervisors Trail Committee** 
   1. Zim Smith
      1. Connecting the Zim Smith to the Champlain Canalway Trail, including:
         1. a focus on ROW acquisition and Design, and a move toward construction to connect the Zim Smith Trail from Coons Crossing to Mechanicville; and
            1. Jason – fully funded, working to connect crossing from Coons to Mechanicville; will have excess funds and would like to use them to complete some improvements between Coons Crossing and Round Lake
            2. Ralph Keating asks if additional parking is part of the concept here. Jason says they are pursuing options at Coons Crossing but don’t know
         2. planning for connection from Mechanicville to CCT – Jason was hopeful that the county would be able to extend their project limits but given the timing that’s probably not feasible, so they are looking at other options. In the wake of the Governor’s statewide trails announcement, this makes a lot of sense and the timing is ripe. ***Jason will send Katie the figures on the proposed cost of making that extension.***
   2. Champlain Canalway Projects
      1. Waterford Section – behind Momentive and over the landfill. This part will be shovel-ready soon and we need to start thinking about construction
      2. Halfmoon – extends from current northern terminus of existing trail in Halfmoon to Route 4 at sewage treatment plant.
      3. ***Jason says that Joe Grasso will come to next meeting to provide update***
   3. Equine trails (*B Lasher)*
      1. Complete parking lots at the Moreau County Forest and Providence equine trails
         1. Providence - gravel has been delivered, once snow melts they will spread
   4. Palmertown regional trail system
      1. Support of and participation in planning processes
   5. Blueway Trails (*B Neils)*
      1. Support of designation of Kaydeross between Kelley Park and Saratoga Lake as Blueway Trail
   6. Hudson Power Express trails opportunities should the project progress – seems as though the project might be fast tracked given the Indian Point closing. ***John Mitchell will connect with the HPE contact to ask***
3. **Localized Goals of Trails Committee for 2017**
   1. Corinth trail system – (*B Clarke*)
      1. Connector between Spruce Mountain Fire Tower Trail and Village Reservoir property
   2. Linking the towns of Wilton and Northumberland to expand the trail system
   3. Extend the Ballston Bike Path to Blue Barnes Road – *S Miller*
   4. Local Zim Smith Goals:
      1. City trail near Woods Hollow to connect Milton, B Spa, and Saratoga Springs/future Zim Smith trail
      2. Segment between Village of B Spa snow dump and Cty sewer ROW in Malta
   5. Saratoga Springs Greenbelt system – *D Meyer*
      1. $1.1 million Climate Smart Communities Grant to complete downtown connector will go from corner of City Hall down to High Rock, then up to Excelsior
4. **Department of Transportation Project Radar List** *S. Miller*
5. Exit 15 over the Northway
6. Route 4 and 32 crossing for Canalway Trail from Halfmoon to Main St in Mechanicville.
7. Rexford Bridge pedestrian crossing
8. Rt. 50 crossing at Northline Road
9. 9p shared access upgrades (Saratoga Lake) and x’ing near Lake Lonely
10. Spier Falls Road x’ing for Equine from Moreau County Forest to State Park.
11. Crossing on Route 4 at Sword Surrender Site
12. Upgrades on Rt 32 between Battlefield and Victory – Need bike lanes.
13. Rt 29 between SS and Schuylerville – need bike lanes for entire length
14. Jones Road – wide enough for bike pedestrian use.
15. WWPP needs safe crossing on route 50
16. Tunnel/bridge over/under I87 to connect Spring Run Trail to E side of I87
17. 146a connector to Ballston Lake Trail
18. Crescent Ave Greenbelt Trail section
19. Nelson Ave Ext bridge expansion of bike lanes even if by striping
20. **Information from Towns/Cities**
    1. ***Clifton Park*** – *J. Ruhl*
    2. ***Corinth*** *– B. Clarke*
    3. ***Milton*** – *L Woolbright*
       1. Development along Hutchins Rd? Woods Hollow trail opportunity? Larry – it’s a 9 acre vacant parcel proposed for senior housing and multi-family and wouldn’t provide an opportunity
    4. ***Saratoga Springs –*** *K. Maynard/W. Elton/others* 
       1. Pitney Farm has closed – trails committee formed***;*** March 5 there will be
    5. ***Malta*** *– S Miller*
    6. ***Wilton*** *– M Olson*
    7. ***Stillwater*** *– E. Kinowski*
    8. ***Halfmoon*** *– J Mitchell*
    9. ***Greenfield*** – *Ken Blom*
    10. ***Ballston Lake*** – *A Dyer*
    11. ***Ballston Spa* –**
    12. ***Mechanicville –*** *T Richardson*
    13. ***Saratoga***
21. **Other**
    1. Trail Advocacy Day- March 2nd in Albany – form a team and develop talking points
       1. ***John Mitchell will send the link to sign up***
    2. PLAN trails data project data gathering will end March 31st - information not received by then will not be included in this iteration of the project
       1. Tina Carton – SEDC presented and expressed an interest in data. She says that SEDC could use this information as could the City. ***Katie will send request to PLAN***

\*Next meeting April 13th 5:30-7:30