

(TBA)

TOWN OF PUTNAM Trails Committee
Minutes of a Regularly Scheduled and Public Meeting

TOWN CLERK - PUTNAM CT

Date: Tuesday May 24, 2022

Time: 6:00 p.m.

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The Putnam Trails Committee met for a Regularly Scheduled meeting In-person and via Zoom # 875 3177 4083 – passcode 2ZZn95, on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 6:00 pm.

Chairman Moorehead opened the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Please Note: audio system in Conference Room 109 had technical difficulties. It was hard to hear the audience during question and answer under public participation via Zoom.

1.Attendance: In-Person: Chairman Scott Moorehead, Committee Members: Angela Kneeland, Bruce Fitzback and Michael Rocchetti. Town Administrator Elaine Sistare, Economic Development Director Delpha Very and Volunteer Lyann Graff. Thompson Trails Committee members: Charles Obert, Brian Loffredo and Paul Provost.

Zoom Attendees: Committee Member Susan Phaneuf, and Thompson Trails Committee members Karen Durlach and David Ostrowski, and ECD Administrative Assistant Jackie Lefevre.

Presenters (In-person): Cass Chroust, RLA and Ryan Chmielewski, SRPM with Weston and Sampson.

2. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes- March 25, 2022*: Member Kneeland motioned to approve the minutes of March 25, 2022, as presented in packet, seconded by Member Fitzback, motion passed.

3. Airline Trail Gap Project: Putnam to Thompson: Town Administrator (TA) Sistare introduced herself. TA Sistare welcomed everyone and shared an update on the Airline Trail Gap connection from Pomfret to Putnam. West of the Quinebaug River on other side of Henry Breault Bridge (footbridge) is a steep incline. Weston and Sampson, through another contract, is presently working to resolve. She introduced Cass Chroust and Ryan Chimielewski of Weston and Sampson. Ryan shared some background on Weston and Sampson. Both proceeded to present the Putnam to Thompson Airline Trail Gap Connection Project Plan.

- Site Walk: July 2021 A kickoff walk started at Henry Breault Bridge (footbridge) onto the Putnam River Trail, Kennedy Drive to Providence Street toward Thompson. Many routes were vetted from Providence Street to the Trail head in Thompson on Mechanics Street (Rte 12)
- Project Area: proposed area/s were described and demonstrated with map on screen.
- Property Ownership: Private, Business, Railroad and Town were identified with respect to location to the proposed trail routes.

- Potential Trail Route Alignments: narrowed down to 4 options by using a trail route evaluation process and matrix with point system. Option 2 scored the highest points. A Secondary route has been identified as an alternate option.

Next Steps:

- Engage Railroad – P&W and CT D.O.T
- Engage with Key Commercial and Residential owners (preliminary conversations have started)
- Develop Strategic Funding Plan

5. Public Participation: Questions were taken from the audience. Participant Sign-In sheet is attached

Adjournment: There being no further items to come before such meeting, Member Kneeland motioned to adjourn, seconded by Member Fitzback. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectively Submitted by Jacqueline A. Lefevre, Recording Secretary