

Minutes of the Schoodic Byway Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 23, 2016

9:00 A.M, Gouldsboro Town Office

Jen Boothroyd

Peter Drinkwater

Barbara Bpwen

Alan Gray

Hilly Crary

Dick Fisher

Bob DeForrest

Eileen Hall

Frank Dorsey

Bryan Kaenrath

The meeting came to order at approximately 9:00 A.M.

Frank gave an account of the educational program Friends of Taunton Bay sponsored for K-5 students at Cave Hill and Mountain View Schools. The program was focused on estuary science and horseshoe crabs. Every student participant got a Schoodic Outdoors brochure and each teacher got one of FTB's "Ten Short Hikes" maps.

Eileen shared her experience with the National Scenic Byway web conference she attended. She downloaded the Powerpoint presentation and will make it available to anyone in the group that wants it. There was a particularly interesting focus on the idea of "heritage preservation planning". The group debated whether a future membership in the National Scenic Byway organization is worthwhile. It was agreed that it would be worthwhile if we could find a way to pay for it. The group also considered whether corporate sponsorship is an idea worth pursuing in the future. It is something that should be reviewed in future strategic planning efforts.

Bob told the group about upcoming open meetings sponsored by the Downeast Education Conservation Network, regarding rockweed and conservation's role in economic growth. He will circulate the dates.

Jen reviewed the latest draft agenda for the Downeast Fisheries Trail event happening in the Schoodic area in May. The agenda and details are still being finalized, but Jen will be involved in the committee, and will keep the Schoodic Byway Committee abreast of developments.

Jen discussed the draft annual report that goes out to the towns along the Schoodic Byway. It was suggested that the letter should contain a reminder to towns that residents buy park passes now, as costs are expected to go up soon. The group also thought that the report is an opportunity to ask the towns for a small amount for the Byway, and should include a summary of the volunteer hours that go into the Committee meetings. Bryan will provide Jen with the template Gouldsboro uses for groups that request money, and Jen will work on incorporating an “ask” into the report.

The group presented their lists, as discussed at the last meeting, of the various byway sites that are maintained by each of the towns, and which sites should be prioritized for future development of protection. The following list was generated:

- Winter Harbor
 - Flagpole and Camp Moore Road maintained by the town
 - There is concern about ongoing access to the Park Loop Road, which is part of the Byway. If visitors need a park pass, it could cut down on visitation.
- Sullivan
 - Gordon’s Wharf and Sullivan Park maintained by town
 - Preservation of the following viewsheds a priority:
 - Preble Cove on Byway/DOT property
 - Frenchman’s Bay Scenic Turnout
 - Long Cove picnic area
 - Future pine tree growth at Flanders Bay Farm

- Possible acquisition of abandoned storefront near Long Cove for parking and launching of kayaks
- Gouldsboro
 - Library grounds/eastern gateway is the only “stop”
 - Wonsqueak viewsheds should be protected
 - Maybe negotiate parking/access at the lobster company so that people can stop and have their picture taken with the Sardine Man
 - Per Bryan, there will be a new public parking lot developed this year across the road from the wharf and also sidewalks in Prospect Harbor
- Eileen noted that FBC is developing a trail passport, which they may be able to expand to include Kid’s Quest sites next year.

The group spent some time discussing possible future projects that could be matched with upcoming grant announcements. In addition to a new Corridor Management Plan and Website overhauls, which have been discussed in the past, the group would be interested in trying to get funding for:

- Working with an educator in each of the schools
- Economic Development related to the Byway

The next meeting was set for March 23rd at 9:00 AM at Gordon’s Wharf.