

Minutes from April 19, 2016

Schoodic Byway Meeting

Present:

Eileen Bader

Jen Boothroyd

Peter Drinkwater

Gary Edwards

Dick Fisher

Rod Franzius

Ruth Franzius

Alan Gray

Julie Isbill

Larry Johannesman

The meeting began at 1:00 at Gordon's Wharf in Sullivan. Introductions were made around the table. The group had no proposed revisions to the meeting minutes.

Jen stated that the annual report for the Betterment Fund has been submitted, and that they have asked for it to be resubmitted on their online portal; she will do that.

Jen told the group about the application she submitted for a North Face Explore grant. If funded, the money will be used to plan an outdoor adventure day for area fourth-graders along the Byway and in the park.

Julie gave some information about the Schoodic Fund grant program. The program awards grants up to \$5000, but grants are usually in the \$1000 range. The deadline is June 1st, and the awards are made in September. The funds should be used for actual "things" that are a benefit for the Schoodic area. She suggested that the group could apply for funds to print the Kids' Quest map. The group agreed that this would be a good idea.

Jen said that she had spoken to Fred Michaud about the Maine Tourism Enterprise Grant. The funds can be used for marketing only, and must include a 1:1 match of actual cash, also designated towards marketing. We probably are not in a place to pursue this for the spring round of grants, but there is another round in the fall, and the group agreed that this might be the best way to fund a new professionally-designed website, if the match funds can be secured.

Peter stated that the group is unable to use a Downeast Explorer bus for the proposed bus tour. Larry will check on the availability of a couple 15-person MDOT vans.

Peter and Julie summed up a discussion with BikeMaine about how the Byway group might be able to get involved when BikeMaine comes bringing hundreds of bikers this September. The best idea might be having an information booth at the group campsite in Milbridge the night before the route takes the bikers on the Schoodic Byway. Larry said that he could probably have some of the existing maps and byway materials printed and mounted on foam board to use. Peter also noted that BikeMaine is looking for a location to turnout for lunch along the Byway.

The group discussed a variety of options for the new name of the Ped Pedal Paddle project. Eventually, "Schoodic Outdoors" was chosen.

The group reviewed a map Jen had prepared showing the potential Schoodic Outdoors sites that had been identified, and several corrections were made. Various map brochures were reviewed, and the group agreed that the Schoodic Outdoors brochure should be similar in content and appearance to the map of Cobscook Bay area hiking trails, which shows a detailed map with contours on one side, and has specific information about each site on the reverse.

After some discussion, it was decided that only hiking, biking, and hand-launch boating sites should be included on our map, and that additional information, like other trail uses, can be included in the details on the back of the map.

The group noted the importance of emphasizing safety and competence, especially when kayaking tidal waters.

The next meeting was planned for Monday, May 23rd at 9:00 AM at the Winter Harbor Town Office.