

Minutes from June 27, 2016

Schoodic Byway Meeting

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| Present: | Alan Gray |
| Eileen Bader | Julie Isbill |
| Jen Boothroyd | Fred Michaud |
| Frank Dorsey | Barbara Shanahan |
| Gary Edwards | |

The meeting began at 8:30 at Gordon's Wharf. Introductions were made around the table. The group had no proposed revisions to the meeting minutes. The minutes were approved.

Jen reported that neither of the two grant proposals she had submitted, to the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation and to the North Face Explore Fund, were funded. A letter to the National Park Service requesting an additional year of Julie's assistance has been submitted. Julie reported that she prepared and submitted an application to the Schoodic Fund for \$1000 towards the cost of printing the Schoodic Outdoors brochures. Her program can provide \$2000 matching money for this. She is also preparing an application to the NPS Challenge Cost Share grant, for funding for the outdoor day for fourth-graders, originally proposed in the North Face application. If we get the grant: Barbara can talk to the Superintendent to make the connections to the teachers. Even if we don't get the grant, Barbara will send them the information on Every Kid in a Park including how to get a free Park pass (Julie will forward info to Barbara). Part of the proposal is for a passport to kids and their families to the outdoor gems of the area. Frenchman Bay Conservancy has been working on a similar passport which probably could be used for the 4th graders. The grant is for the 4 elementary schools along the Byway: Hancock, Mt. View, Peninsula, and Cave Hill (is that the right 4?). Barbara pointed out that RSU 24 includes other schools too but it may be too much to work with more than 4.

The group discussed the bus/van tour proposed for early fall.

Julie spoke to John Kelly at Acadia, who informed her that the largest vehicle allowed in the Schoodic part of Acadia is a 15-passenger van. It was noted that the Island Explorer buses are larger and this, and Julie said she would ask for clarification about whether larger vehicles would be permitted for a one-time use. Fred said that he may be able to reserve one or more of MaineDOT's 12-person passenger vans for the tour. He also mentioned and will check on the possibility of the Greater Bangor Convention & Visitor's Bureau sponsoring a bus for the day, as they did for a similar event in northern Maine. We will also look into West Bus Service in Steuben (size, availability, cost). We will want 2-3 vans. Consider one van starting at each end of the route and meeting in the middle for lunch. See if we can get lunch donated. "Hosts" could meet the tours at the stops.

Frank distributed an extensive list of potential invitees, and Jim Fisher also provided a list via e-mail. After some discussion of the target audience for the tour, the group decided that the event would be

focused on potential funders or promoters that could lead to future funding opportunities. The whittled-down invitee list includes:

- Reporters/photographers
- Representatives of the region's House Representatives and Senators
- Management of local banks
- Maine funding organizations and foundations, to include:
 - Quimby Foundation
 - USDA
 - Sewall Foundation
 - Betterment Fund
- Maine Office of Tourism
- Maine Tourism Association
- DART
- Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Jen and others will work on compiling contact information for the above group.

The group determined that stops on the bus tour should include all Byway stops, including scenic turnouts and Kid's Quest sites, and should include lunch. Generally the tour should include accomplishments and what still needs to be/could be done. Consult the Byway map for points of interest. The group liked the idea of a stop in Winter Harbor where people could take and eat their box lunch and/or ice cream where they like, and have a bit of time to wander the town. But could this be done in 45 minutes?

Overall, we want to keep the tour simple, fun, memorable, doable.

We reviewed the draft Schoodic Outdoors map that Margot prepared and Larry printed. Comments include:

- * Move the map to the left approx 1 1/2". Do not need to show Cherryfield but could have a note with an arrow "To Cherryfield".
- * Make the public lands with a bit more contrast with the overall green.
- * Make Route 1 more bold than the other roads (solid line?)
- * Show only public boat access points.
- * Show motorized and non-motorized ramps - all with kayak symbol. We can explain that a site is a motorized boat ramp either on the back in the descriptions or perhaps with two slightly different symbols (both kayaks but one bolder than the other?).
- * Keep the 2 golf courses even though they are private (provide important outdoor recreation).
- * Generally, do not show private businesses.
- * Try an inset map for the Long Pond/Schoodic Pond area and another for Winter Harbor to see if that works. Can it fit on the map side in the area right-middle without much important map info?
- * Add trails (including Black Mt.) and boat access on Bureau of Public Lands (Eileen will get them sent to you).
- * Add the 7 Kids Quest sites; they are located at Byway turnouts (Larry or Jen - can you tell/show Margot those locations and send the logo?). Use the Kids Quest logo for the icon.
- * Safety text on back and if it fits, on front too.
- * Though Downeast can be seen both ways, probably use "Downeast".

- * Show the Gouldsboro town office as a Kids Quest site. Do not show library.
- * Show only water access at Tidal Falls Preserve.
- * No need to show gate locations for gated roads.
- * Eileen will check and let you know about boat access to West Bay Pond.
- * The island labeled Sloop Island should be changed to Bean Island.
- * "SERC Institute" should be changed to "Schoodic Institute".
- * The ferry symbol in Winter Harbor needs to be on Sargent St (where the number is).
- * The northwestern part of the Schoodic Byway looks partially dashed line?
- * The group thought that the map shows all of the bike routes we would recommend, though when I look at it now it seems we should show the loop along the edge of Schoodic Peninsula as an on-road route (to Birch Harbor?).
- * The key has "trail intersection marker". Should that be "trailhead" instead?
- * I wonder if the symbols on the map could be a bit larger? Especially the tent at "Schoodic Woods". I would make the label "Schoodic Woods Campground".

[Editor's note: it was determined after the meeting, via email, that the target date for the van tour will be Friday, October 7th. Fred will tentatively reserve a/the MaineDOT vans for that date]

The next meeting was planned for Monday, July 25th at 8:00 AM at Gordon's Wharf.