

Schoodic Byway Corridor Meeting
Wednesday, October 7, 2015
8:30 – 10:30 AM
Gordon's Wharf

Agenda

Attending: Tom Martin, Eileen , Barbara Bowen, Fred Michaud, Bob DeForest, Larry Johannesman, Rod and Ruth Franzius, Gary Edwards, Barbara Shanahan, Peter Drinkwater

Minutes: Approved as written

Byway Administration and Planning

- Who will continue to provide staff support for the Schoodic Byway (after Jim leaves)?

National Parks Rivers, Trails and Conservation Program - Julie Isbill

- Every American should have places to go near their homes
- Will be working with the Schoodic Byway Committee
- We become part of your team
- Need to learn about what is going on
- New Groups
 - Incorporation
 - Maps
 - Brochures
 - Grant writing – finding sources of funding
 - On the ground projects
 - Trails
 - Signs
 - Support work of the committee chair

Questions

Located in Brunswick, established in 1993

Time frame: Starting in April and running for six months

Will try to visit area about once per month

Options

- HCPC is looking to hiring a new planner, probably part time
 - One applicant has landscape design skills, photography, brochures
 - Another applicant has transportation and GIS skills

Tom Martin: Not available until December 7

Barbara Shanahan will be going to Florida in December

Peter:

- Need someone to keep project moving forward

Larry Johannesman:

- Will be working on implementation

- Will contact the group directly
- Has contracts with HCPC – with Jim as Lead – need to get those squared away
- Larry would carry that on

Fred Michaud

- Planning department at MaineDOT has reduced funding to 75%
- Need to get an account for this byway
- Example of Katahdin Tourism Partnership – has been very successful
 - o Upper Valley Economic Development Council is the applicant
 - o They receive 10% overhead for grant administration
 - o Sewall has provided a lot of funding – including \$30k / year for administration
- Granting organizations look at RPC's with suspicion
 - o May want to look at ways to move funds through the land trusts or other grass roots organizations.
 - o Gary - RC&D Would like to do this work. Need to see whether RC&D is considered quasi-governmental
 - o Bob – MCHT – is interested in how they can play a role

Dick Fisher – who are we planning for ongoing maintenance

- Does it make sense to put some of this on the communities?
- Some of the infrastructure is the responsibility of the state
 - o Scenic Turnouts
 - o Road improvements
- Some of the sites become the town's responsibility
 - o Facilities on town property like Gordon's Wharf
 - o Volunteers step forward for some facilities – eg. Garden Clubs
- Need to build durable infrastructure that doesn't need much maintenance
- Gordon's Wharf
 - o Success story getting an educational/interpretive facility
- Schoodic Woods – another interpretive center – with Bike Trails

Wrap-up – Barbara Shanahan

- Want to talk with Julie Isbill
- Find out what DART can do for this region

What do we want to do next?

- Marketing
- More Kids Quest related projects
 - o Educational programs for kids
 - o Building skills for children
 - o Kids Quest Map
- Viewshed easements
 - o Peter - Loosing views
 - o Bob
 - need a solid analysis from the byway perspective
 - Unified voice from the towns – avoid negative reactions
 - Work with land trusts for easements

- Watson Farm – planted trees that will eventually block the views
- Use the scenic view analysis
- SERC and Schoodic Institute
 - Offer education and interpretation
 -
- Fred
 - Familiarization Tours can help to make people more aware of the opportunities
 - Invite legislators, press, media
 - Bob - MCHT may have funds from Partridge Foundation that could be used for this
- Bike Tour on the Bold Coast – ending at Schoodic Point next year
- Tom
 - Would like some short term projects that a planner would pursue this winter

☒ Complete current kids quest projects

☒ Carry out the Ped, pedal, paddle initiative with or without the NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation program

☒ Raise additional revenues

☒ Maintain byway infrastructure

☒ Promote byway and the region

Larry

- Demonstrated the new poster for Tidal Falls
- Comments:
 - Falls start 2 hours after high tide
 - Change wording on boaters
 - “Foraging” or hunting birds

Minutes from our 9/10/15 meeting are posted to: [http://schoodicbyway.info/about us/minutes/SB1091015min.pdf](http://schoodicbyway.info/about_us/minutes/SB1091015min.pdf)