

St. Lawrence County Public and Private Lands
Recreational Advisory Board Meeting

Draft Minutes for August 19, 2008

Present: Roger Bennett, Dawn Howard, Aaron Earl, Judy Wendt, Stan Hewlett, Warren Irwin, Walt Paul, Bill Lutz, Alex MacKinnon, Tom Grow, Kermit Blanchard, David Irish, Deb Christy, Spencer Thew, Ron Bertram, John Condino, and Jim Saxton. (Unable to attend: Bob Dowman, Pat Whalen, and John Manson.)

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Chairman Roger Bennett.

Dave Irish moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Kermit Blanchard seconded and all were in favor.

Hearings and Comments:

1. John Condino and Jim Saxton are from Barton and Lougudice, PC which is the consulting firm tentatively doing the draft Environmental Impact Statement for SLC. They are doing Lewis County's also. In the final stages of that Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS). They have other trail experience also. They have hired an environmental attorney out of Syracuse to help too. The steps are to define what the system is (basis/plan) and then begin the scoping process (ID issues). Give lots of opportunity for public comment. The GEIS satisfies SEQR. It deals with system as initially defined and allows for changes by established procedures. County publishes and other potential lead agencies review and approve. These include state, county and local entities (ie DEC, Towns, other municipalities, etc.) Do a well defined system – reserve up front. Establish a lead agency ie the County. Under normal circumstances, can add to. If major changes do a supplemental GEIS. Include Parishville pilot in this GEIS. (Not everything reviewed.) Can develop private trails without SEQR.
 - A. Warren Irwin presented some questions from John LaMay
 - i. When start – when committee votes and ASAP.
 - ii. How long to do – 1 year plus.
 - iii. No NYS land covered.
 - iv. Clubs can help with interface.
 - B. Alex MacKinnon reiterated that we have two funding sources – Economic Development \$25,000 and the rest from \$500,000 grant. Preliminary paperwork done to hire the consultant through highway RFP. About \$70,000 is the initial cost estimate.
 - C. Walt Paul had questions on the process with regards to easement lands. The answer is to integrate them into the process. Walt said DEC doing UMP's. These include SEQR already. Walt asked if we can do connector routes through state property - need to identify these areas now.
 - D. New subcommittee of: Judy Wendt, Kermit Blanchard, Warren Irwin, Deb Christy and Walt Paul volunteered to be a working group to help the consultant. They are to cc Roger Bennett on everything.
 - E. Kermit Blanchard made a motion to spend the money on the consultant. Ron Bertrand seconded and all were in favor.

- F. Scoping is up to the new committee. Judy Wendt will be point of contact for the consultant.
- G. The County Attorney should also participate. Alex MacKinnon will ask Andrew Moses, Deputy Attorney to do so (through Peter Lekki).
- H. Group needs to review initial County wide map and add to it now if need to. ie. Fort Drum, Redwood, Pitcarin, Franklin County.

Committee Reports:

1. **Executive Committee** – Roger Bennett turned it over to Kermit Blanchard who reported that:
 - Parishville Volunteer Fire Department gave permission to use their parking lot at fireman's field.
 - More than ATV's use trail and still need "ATV area" included in description.
 - Landfill area can not be used because of need for fence and future building plans.
2. **Trail Oversight** – Aaron Earl, Judy Wendt and Deb Christy reported for Tom Ortmeyer.
 - YCC and work crews have been busy.
 - o 21 was cleared and 9 mostly done. Benson Road too.
 - o Questions on Cobble Road and Picketville needs work. Signage still needed in areas.
 - o Question on 12 & 14 and what is in the Blue Line = Nothing. Note: will double check.
 - o ATV Club Work Days will be this Thursday 10 AM and Friday 3 PM. Meet at Parshville Fire Hall. Aaron Earl has signs and Kermit Blanchard will take over. Sending Work Day notice out to all ATV Clubs.
3. **Mapping** – Aaron Earl
 - No new news to report.
 - Judy Wendt had a suggestion to use 16" X 24" paper with map on one side and rules on other. It was discussed that a 1,000 copies at 11" X 17" would work, but Judy Wendt will check the size and price with Bill Dashnaw regarding the County Printing office.
 - Alex MacKinnon moved that we ask the County to print original supply of 1,000 maps. Deb Christy seconded and all were in favor.
4. **Finance** –Dawn Howard
 - No report.
5. **Education and Enforcement Committee** – Laura Perry was not present.
 - Judy Wendt wants to call a meeting regarding side by sides on roads.
6. **BOL** – Alex MacKinnon
 - No report.
7. **Grant Committee** – Judy Wendt
 - No report

Old Business:

- Barton Road – Dave Irish had concerns over landowner and width at corner.

- Dave Irish reported that Parishville has no road signs up yet. Alex MacKinnon said the roads only opened last week. Need copy of law back from Department of State.
- Dave Irish asked about business signs. Must say ATV Area and SLC Multi purpose trail. Judy Wendt knows someone who can make.
- Dave Irish inquired if Bill Dashnaw can do trail crossing signs on road at areas where ATV's cross highways, ie #9.

New Business:

- Deb Christy said C8 snowmobile trail is 11 miles on Stark Road. Please help. Alex MacKinnon said to write up a plan of what SLCSA specifically wants ie Groom shoulders

Announcements:

None

Next Board meeting was scheduled for September 16, 2008 at 7 PM at SWCD.

Motion to adjourn by Warren Irwin. Bill Lutz seconded and all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM

Minutes by Dawn Howard