

September 22, 2021

PC: Laura, Janet, Brenda, Shane, Nancy, Rudi

Trails: Jonathan Bicknell, Kevin Rose, Ellen Hosford, Betsey Geiser, Susan Salster

Public: Matt Frost, Amy Frost, Nan Frost, Michael Sacca, Ben Wolfe, Maureen McCullough, Scott Beavers, John Echeverria, Betty Brown, Lori Berger, Deb, Anita Abbott

Meeting commenced at 6:04 pm

### **Review of Agenda**

#### **Public Comment**

Lori Berger expressed frustration with the process and viewed the proceedings as an imposition on the community. The polarization the discussion was creating was discouraging

Deb echoed much of Lori said and noted the increase in traffic and people walking on her property when using the Crossroad

Anita spoke on behalf of Priscilla Farnham and noted the increase of people whom they did not know on the Crossroad

Ben Wolfe implored compromise and noted that something successful would be a partnership with landowners

John Echeverria suggested focusing on the data which pointed to pedestrian use only and noted that wetlands were found on three of the four trails. John pointed out that the only concession in the document was keeping large events off of the trails

#### **How to Work the Document**

Went over ground rules of how the committee would vote, noting that a quorum was present for both the Trails Committee and the Planning Commission

#### **Discussion**

Clarification that the document is a policy and not an ordinance

Ellen Hosford reviewed the Trails Committees process and structure

Discussion about e-bikes and how they fall under the policy compared to other bikes in regards to impact and speed

Discussion on whether there needs to be a preamble in the policy that outlines the data acquired in order to provide a clear set of information. This was later dropped

A motion was made to use Robert's Rules of Order to go through the document was proposed which was met with a tie and failed (5 for, 5 against, 1 abstention)

Page 1 of the document (language concerning all four trails) was discussed and via a straw vote was proceeded through without formal voting.

#### Falls Hill Trail

Discussion of who would maintain the trail if it were to be used given the landowner had done work to install water bars. It was decided that this would be decided later by the Selectboard

A discussion ensued about conditions of the trail, concerns about the trail leading to private property and leading to trespassing, and people moving off of the trail

The policy was modified and was approved via straw vote.

#### Baptist Hill Trail

Language was modified and was approved via straw vote.

#### Crossroad Trail

The language was modified to remove "most" from the statement and change "Planning Commission" to "Selectboard". The section was approved via straw vote.

Shane made a motion to accept the policy document as a whole which was seconded by Izzy. It was approved unanimously by the Planning Commission and with a 3-2 vote of the Trails Committee.

A brief discussion was held about whether to add a Trails Committee document that outlined information to send along with the policy recommendation; it was decided that that would happen at a later date when a quorum was present and proper warning was given.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm