



MASSACHUSETTS RECREATIONAL TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD

October 8, 2019

Conference Call

7:00 – 8:00pm

Members Present with Representation:

Tom Chamberland- Local Land Trust/Non-Profits

Larry Tucker – Snowmobiling

Joe Geller – Rail Trail Users

Dick Williamson – Bicycling/Rail Trails

Bridget Likely – Hiking

Tim Craig – Youth Corps

Bill Boles – Mountain Biking

Charlene Saulnier – Trail Users with Dogs

Marianne Iarossi – Municipal Trail Planners

Kayla Prange – Trail Users with Dogs

Aaron North – Hiking

Liaisons:

Amanda Lewis – DCR MassTrails

Libby Knott – DCR MassTrails

Meeting Minutes:

- **Approve Minutes**

Motion to accept meeting minutes from June 25, 2019 meeting; seconded and unanimous approval.

- **Trails Conference Discussion**

MARTAB Roles – We will need conference help in a few important ways. First, we will need help with registration in the morning. Second we will need help with providing “Room Ambassadors” for each session to help the presenter(s) with anything they may require. Please email Amanda or Libby if you have any specific time or session that you would like to volunteer.

Tom will be asked to speak during the opening session as MARTAB Chair. We are working on getting the governor, lieutenant governor, or secretary of EEA to help open the Conference, too. So far we have not received a commitment from anyone.

Getting the word out -

Amanda announced that all sessions were online now and a Register Now eblast had been emailed out to our MassTrails contact list. Right now, we are entering a heavy rotation of marketing efforts to get the word out. We will be sending follow up eblasts registration reminders, exhibitor opportunities reminder, as well as press releases and social media posts. We have created a PDF file announcing that Registration is open and we will share that with all of you so you may send to your contacts. It is important that each MARTAB member talk up and create interest in the conference so that we can have an outstanding turnout this year.

We’re introducing “Municipal Friday” this year with morning and afternoon sessions of discussions geared particularly of interest to municipal trail planners. There will be a grant writing session, case study presentations, and MRTC’s statewide map, region by region.

Silent Auction – We need to focus a good amount of energy on gathering items for the auction. We do not currently have much to go into the auction. There is no minimum monetary value / amount for the items. We take big and small donations! People can donate items through the website or by contacting Dick O'Brien directly. The auction will be conducted in the same manner it was in 2017 with all money raised going to the trails organization, non-profit, or town whose name is drawn from a hat at the end of the conference.

Trails Award Recipient Nominations – Libby will look to verify if anyone has been formally nominated for the trails award. If you have someone in mind, please nominate them soon. Nominations can go straight to Dick O'Brien and we will disseminate the information via email and then schedule a quick phone call to review nominations and decide upon a winner. Charlie Tracy and Chris Walsh have been discussed during planning sessions but neither has been formally nominated as of yet.

- **Other Items**

- Follow up email -

- Libby will follow up with conference registration information, Trails Award nomination guidelines, the PDF version of the conference announcement for all to share with their contact lists, next meeting dates, and a reminder that we are looking for auction items for the conference. This will be an immediate email within the next day or two.

In a later email, Libby will forward meeting notes along with the conference's Schedule at-a-Glance for review and consideration towards volunteering as a Room Ambassador. We will need one Ambassador per room per session throughout the Saturday all-day conference. We will also need 3-4 volunteers to help with registration in the morning.

- For next meeting's agenda -

- Nominations for Vice Chair

- By-Law review of wording for recusal during grant review

- Updating the grant review scoring rubric per feedback received

Meeting Adjourned