

Transportation Team
April 28, 2011
3:30-5:00

Members Present: Doug Carnrick, Peter Garrett, Joel Greenwood, Chris Huck, Jack Sutton, Jim Wood, Linda Woods

Jim provided a summary of *Kennebec Explorer*: March ridership was the highest since the 1990s: 4759 riders (including 200 between Augusta & Waterville). Each of the new buses has a bike rack on the front that holds 2 bikes.

Peter Garrett summarized the recent Kennebec-Messalonskee Trails annual meeting:

- Currently 28 miles of trail (more to come this summer)
- Approximately \$2 million has been spent on trails. Major source of funds came from federal Transportation Equity Advancement through Department of Conservation.
- Required a 20 % matching from fundraising
- Concerned about ADA accessibility. The trail along the Messalonskee Stream across from Thayer is currently the only one that meets this requirement. It's a short trail that will be increased to Head of Falls this summer. Hoping to arrange for parking at the Centennial Trail in Benton.
- Waterville Connector Trail goes along side walks
- Winslow Connector is closed due to repairs at Two Cent Bridge.
- Planning to loop the north side of Oakland to connect to Quarry Rd.
- Hoping functional art along the trails—attractive signage indicating distance, history, geology, etc.
- Peter showed samples of fences, gates, benches
- Working to have entire community to be bicycle & pedestrian friendly
- Building a pump track for mountain bikes at Quarry Rd.

Action Item

- Peter: send info about the forms he wants to Linda
- Linda: ask Peter Hallen if Waterville Vocational School can build these. Also ask about building a kiosk. (Trails' group will provide money.)

Jack went to a hearing about LD 1330: a task force for proposals for passenger rail in Maine

- Wondered if anyone was doing anything about passenger rail in this area
- Disappointed that no interest has been shown
- There is property set aside for a station (near the snow dump).
- Chris wondered what needed to be done. Jack thinks the city needs to create an exact plan (location, type of service, cost, integrate with Pan Am Rail, capital funding plan).
- Need to get community leadership interested. Jack suggested following Brunswick's model.

- Since there is strength in numbers, this area should connect with Augusta.

The next meeting will be **Thursday, May 26 at 3:30** at **KVCOG**.