

EMTI Minutes – April 16 2012 @ Richard Brock's house

Present: Rick Hopkins, David Webb, Mary Stone, Sandy Woodbeck, Nona Estrin, Richard Brock, Sue Chickering

Reviewed and approved the minutes from the last meeting. Rick Hopkins moved, Nona seconded, Unanimously approved.

Updates: National Life grant came in for \$3000. Deposited in our account on 12/21/2011. \$1000 will go towards fixing the snowmobile railroad bed washout, \$2000 will go towards finishing Mallory Brook. There was some confusion about \$ because Sandy Woodbeck received \$1000 from Greg Western already. **Mary will call Greg to find out where this \$ came from.** Sandy has suggested that CrossVermont pay Greg and we reimburse them. This is what Greg would prefer. Sandy said that it has already cost 6K for the slide area repairs. The bridge/culvert will cost about 60K just at snowmobile standards. If CrossVermont helps with the funding they can build it to four season standards (with a railing for example for pedestrian crossing).

CVTA is currently fundraising for the Winooski river bridge for the CrossVermont trail. They are currently soliciting donors. The AOT will contribute 1.275 million but needs at least 325,000 matching funds to leverage this \$. They have raised \$75,000, still trying to raise 250,000 more. Nona will approach Betsy Austin to see if she is interested in donating to this cause. She will also approach some other folks who have been generous donors in the past. If EMTI can afford any amount of donation it would be appreciated. The plan is to go to the legislature in the 2013 session with enough financial support to leverage the funding needed. We could possibly use some of the Carlton Smith fund for this as well.

Election of officers: Mary Stone – President, David Webb – NEW Vice President, Richard Brock – Treasurer, Sue Chickering – Secretary

Sparrow Farm trail update: Geoff Beyer has received a grant to deal with storm damage and believes that some of it could be used on the East Montpelier section of the trail. He is checking into this. He will have a crew soon that could work on this, possibly as early as Green Up Day. Geoff and David will coordinate via email to find a time to look at the damaged areas and determine a course of action and possible costs involved. If it is more than Geoff's grant can pay for, we can look into contributing through EMTI and possibly MAMBA would also be willing to help out. The upper section of the trail along the field edge is wet. MAMBA has agreed to put in gravel and a small culvert to fix this problem. EMTI agrees to pay for half of the materials costs. This will possibly be worked on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Esther's Rock and trail coming in from Haggett Road update: Nona will ask Jean Vissering what kind of bench would go esthetically with Esther's Rock and let her pick it out. EMTI will pay for the bench out of existing funds●●. Also, we need to build a plank

bridge through the wet area behind Rick's house. He will look into getting the lumber for this.

Bonnie Hall has noticed people are not following the trail and instead cutting across the field and ending up at her house. She would like a sign put up that says, "STOP, TURN BACK, not the trail. Please respect landowner's wishes." Mary will make a sign to put up at this sharp corner at the edge of the field. We also need better signage clarifying where the trail turns and where it is headed. Maybe Dave Basis at U32 could help with making some nice wooden signs.

NEW trail discussion: Brief discussion on whether we should form two groups, one to deal with maintenance and one to deal with new trail acquisition. We need to determine our priorities over which section we would like to focus on, between Sparrow Farm and Horn of the moon, or finishing up Mallory Brook...discussion led to the need for Greg Western to meet with Chris Pratt to find out where the trail should go as it emerges and connects to Cherry Tree Hill Rd. We will also need to pay Greg whatever it will take beyond the grant money so that he can FINISH this trail! **Mary will talk with Chris about where he would like the parking.**

Carlton Smith Fund has a total of \$1800. This fund could be put towards the following:

- Mallory Brook
- CVTA Bridge Project
- Plank bridge by Rick Hopkins house
- Wooden signs

Next meeting is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup> @ \_\_\_\_\_ (?)