

July 16, 2013 MARTAB Minutes

Attendance: Amanda Lewis, Mark Shea, Dick Williamson, Pam Browning, Dean Zuppio, Dick O'Brien, Becky Kalagher, Bill Boles, Leslie Robinson and Bill Ridoran.

- 1) Nominee papers presented by Pam Browning.
- 2) Dick O'Brien suggested an ad hoc committee to address issues/differences between private non-profit "MARTAB Inc." and state MARTAB. Items to consider are by-laws (are we bound by former?), terms, still need representatives of all user groups. Can meeting the criteria of the state board still let the non-profit serve the role of advisory committee? How does the board run, maintain positions, does user groups put forth a candidate with no vote from the board? Legal open meeting laws? If an officer steps down from their position, does it mean they automatically step down from both?

Amanda: all board representatives "equal" across the board. Need those current for grant reviews. Example; Adirondack serves both because one of the by-laws mission is to be representative for Trails Board.

Volunteers for committee: Dick O'Brien, Pam Browning, Bill Boles, Amanda Lewis, and Mark Shea.

- 3) Dick O'Brien presented Treasurer's Report. Dick O'Brien made a motion to accept, seconded by Dean Zuppio. Voted and passed.
- 4) Next statewide Trail Conference for 2014. Deven worked well for site. Timing: first to mid Nov. Comments on the first conference; laid back. Second conference very structured and busy. Any ideas for something in-between. Thoughts for spring workshops; indoor/outdoor classes. Sub-Committee for the next Trail Conference is Bill Boles, Mark Shea, Pam Browning, Dick Williamson, Dick O'Brien and Amanda Lewis.
- 5) If any absent MARTAB members would like to be on any of these committees please contact Dick O'Brien.
- 6) Website. Issues for MARTAB sub-committee to discuss (item #2) Add to that list 501C3 status or other 501's, which would fit better? Dean had two questions. Can MARTAB Inc. submit grant applications? Board would have to recuse themselves from reviewing it. Can MARTAB Inc. partner with DCR for education grants?
- 7) RTP current 2012 grant round. All awarded except for Boston Allendale Woods. Archeology issues. 2013 grant round on target to be awarded by Sept., at Mass Historic Commission now. Deadline is Oct. 1st. 1,300,000+ DOT obligated, made it to the STIP (state transportation improvement plan) Federal appropriates full amount, DOT typically obligates up to ½ the total authorized in case of a rescission. Other states obligate all or more. Massachusetts is second to last in using its money. Possible issue in the past that not all monies spent on trails, but it definitely has been for the past 10 years. \$626,400 for the next round of grants.
- 8) The Secretary of Transportation wants to see more alternate transportation. Bruce Freeman and Assabet funded for 26 million. Environmental Bond Bill language to be included: adding funding to that program to add 2 million more a year for the next 5 years to supplement the RTP. Heather will let us know when we need to add our support. Push to allocate to DCR. This additional funding won't have the same guidelines as RTP but legislature could require it.
- 9) No trail's coordinator for the western end of the state Becky Barns gone. Seasonal person over there now.
- 10) Board membership update and changes. Hold off on "voting" in nominees until ad hoc committee has the answers. How it will accomplish the goals, grandfather guidelines in. Bill

Boles motioned to continue with current by-laws until which time we come up with another set of by-laws. Seconded by Pam Browning. Discussion ensued. Bill Ridoran abstained. Voted and passed.

11) Nominees: SAM nominated Larry Tucker. Jim LaFrance as the alternate.

NEMBA nominated Bill Boles

Dick O'Brien moved for secretary to cast vote for slate. Seconded by Dick Williamson. Becky Kalagher cast her vote for the slate.

Second term vote tabled until next meeting.

12) Vote for chair. Bill Boles nominated Dick O'Brien. Dick Williamson seconded. Voted and passed.

Vote for vice chair. Dick O'Brien nominated Bill Boles. Becky Kalagher seconded. Voted and passed.

13) Education funds for Workshop. Dick O'Brien received several e-mails. Laretta, 7th generation does safety training for DCR, Trustees and Audubon. Possibility of a series of 2 day workshops. Hold 3 of them targeting east/central/west sections of the state. Motion by Dick O'Brien to recommend Educational funds be used to offer 3 certificate training workshops across the state. Becky Kalagher seconded. Voted and passed. Those passing the chainsaw safety course will receive a certificate of chainsaw competency. May be requirement of so many hours of trail work. Amanda Lewis to get details. Logistics on time frame will have to be worked out.

14) Pam Browning gave details on her nominees. Private Land Owners. Pauline Bixby and Karen Grezsik (alternate). Sean Ashcraft Peak Expeditions for x-country skier, snowshoer, climber. Dick Williamson moved to accept all three nominations. Bill Boles seconded. Voted and passed. Clarification needed from Sean to pick one recreational mode to be the representative of. Amanda will call and ask him.

15) Dick O'Brien received an e-mail from Don Burn. Dick replied that MARTAB will hopefully have a more active role in regional trail networks.

16) Mark Shea suggested an addition on the Face Book page. A page for state wide trail map network and resource. Work shop idea. How do we do this? Trail classification, boundaries, uses and keeping updated.

17) Workshops for spring?

Dick O'Brien motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Dick Williamson. Voted and passed.