

Red Hook Greenways and Trails Committee Monthly Meeting at Red Hook Town Hall 8 January 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Howie Callies, Chairperson
Micki Strawinski, Town Board Liaison
Henry Christopher
Doug Strawinski
John Kuhn
Ruth Oja
Tom Cordier, Tivoli Mayor
Ken Cooper, Bard Security

Red Hook to Tivoli Trail – Village to Village Trail

Discussion focused on the section of the trail that connects Kidd Lane to Bard College to make it more suitable for bicycle use. This section of the Village to Village Trail System is commonly called the Tivoli Bays Trail.

Items Discussed:

1. Solar Lights on trail; perhaps a grant to help with purchase?
2. Bard Security could be involved in random patrols of the trail
3. Cell Phones – nearly everyone has one; would be recommended as an item to be carried by all trail users for emergencies and improved security
4. Criminal Activity – Greater use makes a trail safer; awareness of users a key factor of security; traveling with one or more companions desirable; random patrols a deterrent; a certain level of risk is involved in all activities but these may be minimized with intelligent precautions.
5. Wildlife Concerns – Possible concerns for trail users could be rabid animals, “wild” wild animals, deer ticks, bees, etc.
6. Wildlife Management Area – The DEC Tivoli Bays is a wildlife management area that permits hunting, trapping, and fishing during the NYS designated seasons. Users of trails for biking or hiking must be aware of the presence of hunters. Appropriate clothing (red vests, etc.) for safety is an important consideration.
7. Lyme Disease – Appropriate Lyme Disease/Tick signage is necessary.
8. Old Barn – The old barn located near the Kidd Lane entrance may require measures to prevent entrance for safety reasons.
9. Information Kiosk – Maps, information, sign-in register, signs, etc. should be considered at each end of the trail segment.
10. Trail Signage – Permission for signs must be approved by DEC. Signs would include such information as no motorized vehicles, Lyme Disease

Warnings, helmet and glove recommendations, maps, trails patrolled randomly, etc.

11. Trail Width – Ten feet would be a desired width for bicycle use.
12. Trail Markings – Clear and more frequent trail markers are desirable. As a rule the Committee would prefer having more markers than fewer markers! DEC must approve all trail markers.

Spring Cleanup Day for the Kidd Lane to Bard Trail Section (Tivoli Bays Trail)

1. 14 March 2009 - Committee walk of the trail to determine what cleanup is required, what tools would be needed, etc.
2. 28 March 2009 – Cleanup Day involving several groups of volunteers from the community. Arrangements for refreshments could be arranged through the Recreation Commission.

Volunteers might include the following:

Bard College Groups – Bike Co-op, Equestrian Club, Outdoors Club, Student Government, Environmental Collective, Free Press, Bard Observer. Contacts with other Bard entities and key leaders might include the Athletic Director, Chris Hall, Cross Country Coach Fred Pavlich, the Biology Department, Fred Baumgarten, Environmental Resources, Amy Mills, Fitness and Wellness Director, Ken Cooper, Bard Security, other interested Bard faculty staff, and students.

Red Hook Central School District – High School Environmental Club, the Interact Club, Barbara Murray, Physical Education and Wellness at the Red Hook High School and the RHCS D Wellness Committee, the Athletic Department (teams and coaches) and Athletic Director Tom Cassata. Mill Road School Environmental Club,

Community Groups – Scouts, Church groups, etc.

Community Individuals – Interested hikers, bikers, runners in the community who would be interested in improving the trails in Red Hook

Spring Bike Tour / Hike Day on the Tivoli Bays Trail Section of the Village to Village Trail

1. 18 April 2009 – A reopening of the trail event to focus attention and promote the use of this community trail resource. A ceremony may be appropriate.
2. 25 April 2009 – Possible rain date for the Bike/Hike Tour
3. Further discussion of this event is necessary at the next meeting.

Informational Meeting on Bard Campus (Science Center?)

1. 12 February 2009 – Information session on Thursday, 2/12/09 at 12:00 noon to discuss the Tivoli Bays Trail Section and what is required to make is safe for “hikers, bikers, runners, birders, rambblers, and others.”
2. Lunch for attendees – Arrangements will be planned.
3. Marina Michahelles may agree to chair this meeting?
4. Invitations to interested groups and individuals with RSVP?
5. Photographs of the trail or video, maps, other handouts would be desirable at this meeting.

Design of a Sign and a Logo

1. Request assistance from Bard College to develop a design to use as the sign for the trail – and a logo, symbol to use as a trail marker
2. The design should incorporate the ideas of partnership and cooperation among the following:
 - Town of Red Hook
 - Village of Red Hook
 - Village of Tivoli
 - Bard College
 - DEC
 - Hudson Valley Greenways
3. Sign posts would include the Greenways sign and the Village to Village Trail sign.
4. Signs would be made of wood suitably rustic enough to blend into the environment
5. One large sign at each end of the trail section and small trail markers are needed.