



**Eastern Trail Management District Board Meeting  
May 11, 2022  
Minutes**

Saco Community Center, Rm 104, 75 Franklin St

**In attendance:**

- South Portland – none
- Scarborough – Jami Fitch
- Old Orchard Beach – Val Camire
- Saco – Ryan Sommer
- Biddeford – none
- Eastern Trail Alliance – Joe Yuhas, Bob Hamblen
- Arundel -- none
- Kennebunk – Bryan Laverriere
- Wells -- none
- North Berwick – Mark Reid
- South Berwick – Tom McCullom

❖ **Welcome & Introductions**

❖ **Election of Officers**

Proposed Slate of Officers

President: Ryan Sommer (Saco)

Vice Pres: Bryan Laverriere (Kennebunk)

Treasurer: Val Camire (Old Orchard Beach)

Secretary: Bob Hamblen (ETA)

Motion by Jami Fitch, seconded by Val Camire to approve the slate of officers for the 2023 fiscal year as proposed. Approval was unanimous.

❖ **Consent Agenda – Discussion and vote:**

- March meeting minutes – no action had been taken on the January minutes. Motion by Joe Yuhas, seconded by Bob Hamblen to accept both the January and March minutes, with the amendment of adding Val Camire’s name to the March minutes. Approval was unanimous.
- March Treasurer’s Report – motion by Bob Hamblen, seconded by Joe Yuhas to accept the report as submitted. Approval was unanimous.

- ❖ **2023 Budget Discussion and Approval** – discussion included the Ironman triathlon moving from OOB to Augusta; Eliot, Kittery and South Portland are not paying dues for the upcoming year, while Biddeford refused to agree with the dues increase from \$5,000 to \$6,000 annually and will pay \$5,000, and South Berwick will pay \$500, rather than the reduced fee of \$3,500. About \$3,000 is proposed to be transferred from the general fund for 2022.



- Capital improvement work (fencing) – a \$10,000 grant was applied for, but not approved.
- Potential for TIF funding for the ET – Jon will be talking with Denise Clavette, economic development director in Saco.
- Kenn-N. Berwick engineering design – the \$700,000 Community Project Funding grant championed by Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, and supported by Senators Collins and King, was recognized at a May 20 event at the Kennebunk Elementary School, attended by Pingree and several supporters. The funds have not been appropriated yet. With local match, \$910,000 will cover the whole design/engineering phase. To be determined what entity would put out the RFP for design/engineering firms. Bryan Laverriere suggested an RFQ process initially to winnow the number of qualified firms.

A new 1-year lease is in place for the ETMD/ETA office at North Dam Mill, Biddeford, which includes a \$60/month increase. The mill is under new ownership.

Motion by Bob Hamblen to approve the proposed 2023 budget as presented, seconded by Tom McCollom. Approval was unanimous.

#### ❖ **Trail Operations and Projects**

- Trail Maintenance Report -- Bob asked about the state of maintenance on the Trail. Kennebunk and Saco meet maintenance needs that arise, as do Biddeford, OOB and Scarborough. Arundel needs assistance with extensive fencing maintenance.
- Updates on active projects -- a fence in Biddeford is being cut by people coming through for access to trail. Seasonal flooding is occurring near vernal pools, which better ditching would help. Two trees leaning over trail in Scarborough. The OOB-Scarborough town line sign has been knocked over by a vehicle. A new fence has been knocked over in Biddeford – contractors may be at fault. The Pine Point parking lot is being paved. Jon will move the maintenance database from Excel to Google for easier access.
- Bollard cleanup/painting – Boy Scouts have cleaned and painted bollards on the trail in Scarborough, and may do further work.
- Status reports from municipalities, ETA – Pine Point lot being paved in Scarborough; no news from Biddeford; work is being done on the Kennebunk River abutments, and the land trust in Kennebunk will be using the ET for access; in South Berwick, Tom and Jon will be meeting with the Selectmen, with the trail extension to North Berwick getting attention; in Saco, the Marcottes are back in town for the season and resumed their routine of cleaning the Trail between Silver Springs campground and Main St., new benches have been installed near TA and near Sweetser. Jon reported a bench in memory of Jim Munro is being discussed for Scarborough. A bench has been requested in Kennebunk, but issues exist. Jon further reported that North and South Berwick, Kittery, York and Eliot are being contacted re: the ET being extended beyond South Berwick, in conjunction with SMPDC.



❖ **Previous Action Items**

- "Outside Interest" nonvoting board seats – no discussion.
- Winter trail use policy (bikes, skiing) – no discussion.
- Trail Counts for 2022 – counts will be done in August with participation including GPCOG and SMPDC for a 2 week period. Eric Wright, president of the ETA, has retrieved the counters obtained by the ETA several years ago and installed them along points on the trail, for ongoing data collection.

❖ **New Business**

- Bidd/Saco Eastern Trail Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) request – this is a new earmark request to the offices of Collins, King and Pingree for \$3.5 million, or about 25%, of the cost of design and construction of the Biddeford-Saco connector project. The feasibility study under way by VHB for this project will be completed in June.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

**Next meeting is scheduled for July 13, 8:30-10:00AM at the Saco Community Center, Room 104, 75 Franklin Street – an in-person meeting.**

Submitted by Bob Hamblen, Secretary