

MINUTES OF GREENWAY COMMITTEE MEETING
January 20, 2016

Attended by: Ronny Hardaway, Chair
Phil Dankert, Member
John Gillott, Member
Gerry Monaghan, Member
Deborah Dawson, Secretary

Ronny Hardaway called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

No members of the public were in attendance.

Hardaway advised the members that he had created a page for the Committee on the Village website. He demonstrated where the page could be found and what it contained.

Frank Towner was scheduled to attend the meeting on behalf of the YMCA, but was unable to attend. Towner advised the Committee via an email to Monaghan that the Y would like to assist and be included in the Committee's planning, and would appreciate a sidewalk from N.Triphammer Road to the Y's building, as well as a sign on N.Triphammer identifying the building location.

In Towner's absence, Monaghan described the YMCA's system of mapping 1-, 2-, 5-, and 10-mile running routes on existing Village roads and trails. Monaghan suggested that the Committee use a similar system to create a "walkable Village" in which designated green "hubs" are connected by trails and roads already in existence. Monaghan will contact Towner and the Y to obtain a digital copy of the Y's running maps.

Monaghan also reported that the Town of Lansing Trails Committee recently installed a parking area for hikers at Autumn Ridge, marking that location as the southern terminus of the Town's trail system. Committee members agreed that the Village trail system should be designed to connect with the Town's system at Autumn Ridge. Both Monaghan and Dawson noted that the "Joint Town-Village Trails Committee" has not met since its first meeting in June of last year. Dawson will contact Ruth Hopkins and invite her and Roger Hopkins to the next Village Greenway Committee meeting.

Since the last meeting, Committee members had explored most of the existing trails in the Village and found them to be usable, with the exception of a section of the trail in Lansing Trails, which was damaged by a rock slide apparently triggered by high water. Trails in Lansing Trails, the Cornell business park, and through Village property between Graham Road and Coventry

Walk are all in good condition. No one tried to walk the trail between the Human Health Services District and Sapsucker Woods, so the condition of that trail remains questionable. The Committee noted that there were no trails to speak of in the western part of the Village, although the Beckett Way/Wedgewood loop provides an excellent walking circuit for residents in that area. Much of the terrain off the streets and roads near the lake is too steep for hiking trails.

Gillott reported that there is a trail that connects the Town and the Village across Rosina Drive, just west of the Millcroft development. We could connect that trail to the Lansing Trails trail system if we could get an easement from Mr. Miller, who owns the property between the two. This might be problematic, since Miller is marketing the portion of the property that was to be developed as Millcroft Phase II. Gillott will try to get an introduction to Miller and ask him about an easement of some kind, perhaps around the periphery of the parcel that he is trying to sell.

Hardaway opined that, now that the Committee has identified greenspace hubs and existing trails through the Village, it is time to develop a usable working map. Dankert suggested that Hardaway ask Marty Mosely for a contact at the Tompkins County Planning Department, which would be able to provide us with a good basic map. Hardaway agreed; Monaghan offered to handle graphic modifications of the map once it is obtained.

Hardaway noted that the Committee's Plan must include provisions for periodic evaluation of trail conditions and maintenance of trails. Dankert stated that the Village park properties will also require evaluation and upkeep, and advised the Committee that Village Park, on the south side of Route 13, is badly in need of maintenance. The members agreed that trail and park maintenance will be part of the Plan.

A major piece of the new Village Greenway Plan will be the park to be constructed on the Dart parcel purchased by the Village late in 2013. The members agreed that the Committee should provide input in planning and building the park, and that an "advisory" citizens committee should be encouraged to provide suggestions to the Committee and the Board of Trustees about what the new park should include. All members felt that citizen participation in the park planning process is highly desirable. The members further agreed that the Village should explore the possibilities of using Cornell's landscape architecture and/or botany students to assist with park planning as a class project. Dankert offered to ask an architect friend for advice about how and to whom at Cornell to make such a proposal. Hardaway agreed to discuss the process for planning the park with Mayor Hartill.

Hardaway expressed concern about the pace of the Committee's progress. The members were disinclined to have more than one regularly scheduled meeting per month, but agreed that they

could be more active between meetings and report their progress via email. Of course, special meeting can be scheduled as needed. Since Hardaway and Dawson will be away on the 3rd Wednesday of February, it was suggested that the Committee meet during the first and last weeks of March. Hardaway will send out proposed meeting dates.

Hardaway adjourned the meeting at 4:15 pm.

Next meeting: TBD – first week of March
Village Hall

Action items: Monaghan to obtain a digital copy of the YMCA’s running maps
Dawson to invite the Hopkins to the next Greenway Committee meeting
Gillott to approach Miller to discuss easement.
Hardaway to obtain Village map from TCPD
Mohaghan to provide graphic modification of map
Dankert to make inquiries with respect to Cornell contact(s)
Hardaway to discuss park planning with Mayor Hartill
Hardaway to send out proposed March meeting dates