



Minto Trails Committee Minutes
April 19, 2017 7:00 p.m.
Town of Minto Municipal Office

Present: Matthew Lubbers, Vic Palmer (Clifford Trail Association), Hugh Thompson (Palmerston Trail Association), Jill Welsh (Harriston Trail Association), Paul Frayne, Rick Rock, Deputy Mayor Ronald Faulkner, Quinn Foerter

Deputy Mayor Faulkner called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

County Trail Funding Program:

Matt informed the committee that the County will match their spending on trail initiatives, up to \$20,000, giving the group \$40,000 to spend between now and November of 2018. Some ideas regarding how to spend the money included; focusing on trail maintenance and improving the quality of the trails, extending the trails to connect all 3 communities, and promotion of the trails as a tourist attraction.

Challenges:

Vic thinks that the biggest challenge will be getting people to use the trails. Communication between the trail groups and the Municipal office will also need to improve, to ensure that the trails are maintained properly. Another issue is ensuring that the trails are wide enough that an emergency vehicle could get through them if need be, as well as ensuring that there are parts that are accessible to those with mobility issues.

Next Steps:

For the next meeting, the committee was asked to look at the list of topics that need to be addressed, and prioritize them. Deputy Mayor Faulkner has asked that everyone submit their list of priorities to via email, and that will help to focus the next meeting. Committee members agree that the committee should meet monthly, with the next meeting falling on Wednesday May 17th.

Mission Statement:

All members of the committee agreed that one of the top priorities is creating a Mission Statement. A mission statement should be as concise and simple as possible. Matt read the mission statement of a trails group from Wellesley, and it committee members feel ours should be similar. After a brief session of brainstorming, ideas for the mission statement include: serve the public; provide a suitable and accessible environment for leisure activities such as walking and cycling; creating a positive atmosphere for people, wildlife, and plants to thrive; encourage an appreciation of nature; showcase unique features of the communities, for example the rich history of the rail trails in this area; and to provide an educational experience for those who utilize our trails.

Next meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. on May 17th, at the Municipal Office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Quinn Foerter
Clerk's Department, Town of Minto