Harmony Trail Committee

Report 4/110/2017

In response to our RFP we received 1 response for the services we requested and 2 quotes for bridges. We are disappointed with this level of response but will work with it. We are proposing a small piece of work. We asked for services and said we would buy the bridge and the construction of the footers directly. This did not allow the companies who received the RFP to add profit on those parts of the project. We believe the size of the project and the limited opportunity for profit contributed to the low response.

CEC offered to do the analysis and engineering needed to construct the footers, they will help us select the bridge we will purchase and they will make sure the footers they design will work with the bridge. They will present us with a scope of work and price for managing the volunteer construction of the bridge. Their quote was on a time and materials basis with a price not to exceed $12,500.

We plan to accept their quote contingent on approval from CFA. We will manage our interaction with CEC so that we do not use the maximum planned hours and therefore bring the cost in below $12,500.

Before our next Board meeting we will select and purchase a bridge and we will select a contractor to install the footers and have that work done. It takes time for the bridge to be delivered so we will have another Board meeting before we construct the bridge.

We have already started working on identifying volunteers for the bridge construction and completion of the trail. We have a lot more work to do in drumming up volunteers and interest in the community. Once we order the bridge and have a delivery date we will get into high gear.

Lou Krizmanich has constructed a new kiosk type sign for us to post information to trail users. We plan to install it on 4/22/18.

We had a workday on 4/7. Mark Eyerman cut down trees that were in the proposed new tail from the Harmony Trail to the bridge site. He also cut down one on the stream bank that had the potential to eventually fall on the bridge (it was mostly dead). He addressed a blowdown on the Blue Heron side of the trail too. He left some of a tree in the stream bed. I will be scheduling a time for Ben to help us get that out.

We need to develop a flyer or some other hand out that we can give to the volunteers so they know more about the Conservancy and can get active with us in other events.

We are considering designing and purchasing a patch that can be given for free to the bridge construction volunteers.

We are considering feeding the volunteers. We probably need to borrow some Conservancy equipment like tables, water jugs, awnings, trach bag holders and chairs. We probably will rent a port-a-potty too.

We are going to need volunteers with trucks or vans. They can move equipment to and from Steve’s and move stuff up and down the trail.

The proposed housing development at the corner of Brennan Road and Route 910 received conditional approval. The Board of Supervisors votes on this on 4/16. If it goes through we may end up with a piece of land like our tract below Blue Heron. The developer will be required by Pine to surface the trail.

Gary Rigdon of the Friends of North Park invited us to lead a project during the Stewardship Day May 12, 2018 starting at 9:00 at the Ambridge Shelter on Pearce Mill Rd. He expects to have between 80 and 100 volunteers. He will assign a number to them to us. We need to come up with one or more projects and leaders.