Ad Hoc Harbor Trail Committee Meeting Minutes for 14 Nov 2012

Members present: Louise Maclellan-Ruf, Chair; Kirk Folk, Secretary; Peter Richardson, Lorraine Francis, Joan Wright, Kyle Swan.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1603.

The City Manager, James Smith, will replace Audrey Lovering as the City representative on the committee.

Anne Matlack passed along a suggestion from 11-year-old Boyscout Josh Underdown to erect posts with viewing holes bored through them directed at particular sites along the trail, similar to posts in parks throughout Europe.

Joan suggested Josh might be interested in sanding the 26 information panels she reclaimed from the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens as part of a Boyscout project. She further suggested Adventure Graphics could then print the graphics to be mounted in the panels, though costs will still need to be calculated. The panels obtained are dimensioned as follows: twelve 14"x40" panels, eight 20"x30" panels, five 10"x14" panels, and one 24"x36" panel.

Concerning the contents of the information panels, general discussion arose about printing the signs in both English and French languages. French was the agreed upon important second language to include. It was generally accepted that the signs should be bilingual. Lorain suggested the committee should fully collaborate with other organizations concerning historic pictures of the area. Lorain further recommended the FaceBook site "Rockland, Maine History", maintained by Tim Sullivan, as including several pictures worth considering for the panels. Using Quick Response, or "QR," Codes is another idea the committee believes is important to include on the information panels. The code would be linked to a website or FaceBook page expanding the information capabilites beyond that of the information panels. Joan volunteered to contact to Lizzie Dickerson about the feasibility of local school children developing a site together and how to best maintain it.

Recent information provided by the City Manager indicated the committee must present the trail signage design and, possibly, the sign post design to the City Council for approval. The YMCA grant funds were earmarked to pay for these trail designators, however, without prior approval from the City Council, the funds available will not be spent prior to the December 31, 2012 expiration date. Louise will contact the City Manager to determine who will contact the YMCA and ask for a later date to utilize the grant funding.

The bench design funding is once again available after having been previously withdrawn by the governor. The current requirement is for a design and build contract for a light, a bench, and a sign for trailhead.

Louise learned that the Thomaston wooden trail sign posts were failures, and we should not use them.

Peter moved to approve the Oct 10 meeting minutes. Joan seconded. Minutes approved.