

**Town of Stuyvesant Trails Committee
January 2012 meeting**

Kinderhook-Stuyvesant-Stockport Intermunicipal Trail: Most immediate tasks for 2012 are: (1) present the final feasibility study to Town Board at its February 2012 meeting; (2) get title searches done on several critical properties along the National Grid right-of-way (ROW) to confirm that National Grid owns it; and (3) have Don Widjeskog or another engineer survey ravine on ROW near Keil Road and recommend how to route trail.

Setting up non-profit organization: Committee agreed on the need to form a non-profit organization (501c-3) that could accept tax-deductible donations and apply them toward trail project costs, particularly the town's "local match" required for state or federal grants.

Discussed possibility of joining with Stockport, but agreed on a Stuyvesant-only non-profit so we could potentially accept donations for other town projects such as Ken Hummel Park and the rail station.

Instead of applying for IRS non-profit designation, committee agreed to seek 501c-3 status through the Open Space Institute, which serves as non-profit "umbrella" organization. They charge an 8% administrative fee. Sean will complete application and work with Town Board to file it as soon as possible.

Ken Hummel Park: Agreed to contact Jim Romanchuk and ask if it would be OK for volunteers could construct wooden kiosk. Committee consensus that kiosk is vitally important to attracting people to use the trails there. Sean Cummings will contact him.

Sean and Cal Burch will put snow fence up near beginning of trail to deter snowmobilers and ATV riders from entering park there.

Riverfront access: Newly elected Supervisor Ron Knott said he would like to apply the \$240,000 of GE settlement money to develop a parking area, small pavilion, picnic tables, and car-top boat launch near the Ice House. DEC officials have stated that after a crossing signal device is installed on Ice House Road, they will develop more amenities there.

Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP): Committee discussed whether having an LWRP in place could help us secure grant funding or give the town government more leverage with state and federal agencies with respect to river access – even though town does not own any riverfront. Ron Knott questioned whether the LWRP would provide any more guidance than what we now have in our Comprehensive Plan. Would probably need to pay a consultant to complete LWRP.

CSX: Ron Knott will meet soon with CSX regarding the Schoolhouse Road Bridge. The bridge needs to be top priority, but Ron said that, in the future, he's willing to discuss with CSX officials the possibility of developing the old CSX rail line north of Stuy Landing into a recreational trail.

Swyer Preserve: Sean will contact Nature Conservancy to see if they have made plans for how to repair and re-open the boardwalk.