

Groton Greenway Committee
Open Session minutes of November 6, 2014
Town Hall

David Pitkin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the small downstairs meeting room at Town Hall. Members Marion Stoddart and Carol Coutrier were present.

Upon a motion by Marion Stoddart, seconded by Carol Coutrier, it was

VOTED: to accept the amended minutes of the September 25, 2014, Groton Greenway meeting.

The vote was unanimous.

I. Open Meeting Law Compliance

- A. The three Groton Greenway members that were present each signed the Certificate of Receipt of Open Meeting Law Materials and gave to David Pitkin.

II. Update on Priority Parcels Along the Nashua and Squanacook Rivers and Squanacook River Rail Trail Project

- A. David will review and report at the next Groton Greenway Committee meeting. Largest properties that are unprotected will be identified.
- B. Marion reported that she has met with Sue Edwards on a project to build awareness of the importance of Greenways which will include a music and dance event at Sue's home. Landowners along the river will be identified to invite to the event as well as stakeholders who seek to buy land. Advocates of Greenways will also be invited. Tentative date for the event is in May.

III. Trail Day, May, 2015

- A. Marion has talked to Paul Funch regarding the May Trail Day event. David will work on this also.
Also, Freedom's Way and Montachusets Regional Trails Committee next event is in Nashua on Nov. 29 , then Dec. 7 in Sterling, regarding cultural, historical and recreational opportunities in these towns.
This year Groton Greenway Committee recommends
 - 1. A small event introducing people to the Greenway
 - 2. A paddle with Nashoba Paddler to Fitch's Bridge.

IV. Update on Nod Road Site

Craig Gemmell sent the following report to the Greenway Committee:

"Results of Water Testing

Date of Test: Sunday, October 26, 2014

Testing protocol: All tests completed in field using standard Lamotte Colorimetry Assay protocols

Test Site	Iron (mg/l)	Copper (mg/l)	Nitrates(mg/l)
Upstream (boat launch)	.56	.09	.25
Dump Site (#1 marker)	3.87	.06	1.2
Downstream	0.21	0.07	1.8

Analysis: Important to note significant presence of iron in dump site water, indicating potential influx of iron into surface water from degradation of iron-containing materials from dump site. Significant uptick in nitrate concentration in downstream water possibly due to feces production from large population of geese in downstream portion of Nashua River.”

V. River Festival 2014

Upon a motion by Marion Stoddart, seconded by Carol Coutrier, it was

VOTED: to have River Festival on June 7, 2014.

The vote was unanimous.

VI. Update on Planned Planting of Milkweed Plugs at NEFF Groton Place

Craig Gemmell provided the following report:

“Have connected with Alison Dolbear re: milkweed planting. I’ve also done some research on cultivating milkweeds from seeds and will try to get some plants established this winter. I have collected seeds from two local species and will follow protocols that have been successful in other such projects. Alison has also found potential sources for commercially-grown plugs. We’re going to both try to cultivate our own and purchase commercially-grown plugs to be planted at Groton place. Groton School students ready to plant plugs. These will need to be watered through the course of the summer, and we’ll need to find a willing volunteer or two to do so.”

VII. Mosquito Control

The town voted not to become a member of the Mosquito Control Project.

The next Groton Greenway Committee meeting will be held on Dec. 11, 2014.

Upon a motion by Marion Stoddart, seconded by Carol Coutrier, it was

VOTED: to adjourn.

The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Coutrier