

# Groton Trails Committee

## Minutes of Meeting

March 18, 1998

**Location:** Groton Public Library Satellite at Legion Hall

**In attendance:**

William Boston, Robert Catlin, Bruce Clements, Douglas Furciniti, Paul Funch, Wendy Good, Stephen Legge, Richard Lodge, Edward McNierney, Evan Owen, Brad Paul, David Riggert. (Absent: Stacey Chilcoat, John Head, Stephen Prendergast)

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m. by Ed McNierney, who had been appointed as temporary Chair by the Selectmen.
2. Ed McNierney moved: That the Trails Committee would follow the guidelines set forth in the Town Of Groton's "Committee Handbook" as well as "Robert's Rules of Order."
  - a) The motion was seconded by Stephen Legge.
  - b) The motion was approved: 10 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions
3. A discussion among committee members present was taken to determine interest in the position of Chair. Ed McNierney expressed interest. Discussion of the term of the position resulted in consensus to finish out the fiscal year through June 30, 1998. Thereafter, the Chair, and other officers, would be elected for a one-year term.
4. Bruce Clements moved: That Ed McNierney be Chair of the Trails Committee through June 30, 1998.
  - a) The motion was seconded by Paul Funch.
  - b) The motion was approved: 10 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions
5. A discussion among committee members present was taken to determine interest in the position of Secretary. Paul Funch expressed interest.
6. Doug Furciniti moved: That Paul Funch be Secretary of the Trails Committee through June 30, 1998.
  - a) The motion was seconded by Bob Catlin.
  - b) The motion was approved: 10 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions
7. Following a review of the "Charge of Committee," an open discussion was held to summarize the possible directions the Trails Committee could move in and how the Committee's work might be organized into subcommittees. Some of the topics raised and discussed were:
  - a) Policies for trail use
  - b) Acquiring easements and accesses
  - c) Trails maintenance
  - d) Survey of other towns' (e.g., Carlisle, Lincoln, Lexington) experience with public trails development

- e) Involvement of other groups (e.g., scouting, equestrian, snowmobile, and running organizations) that might be interested in assisting in trail development and maintenance.
- f) Public education, information dissemination (e.g., newspapers, pamphlets), "Public Trails Days," and other methods of getting public involvement in, and support for, the Committee's work.
- g) Development of maps to show current public trails in Groton.
  - i) Whole town versus selected regions (e.g., those with highest interest to the committee, those with most value to the town, those easiest to complete in the next year)
  - ii) Update of old maps versus development of new maps. Ed McNierney offered to digitally scan one of the large maps to assess advantages and disadvantages of developing new maps.
- 8. Discussion among committee members was held to determine interest in the position of Vice Chair, who would substitute in the Chair's absence. It was felt to be worthwhile to have a Vice Chair and Bob Catlin expressed interest in the position.
- 9. It was moved by Bruce Clements: That Bob Catlin be Vice Chair of the Trails Committee through June 30, 1998.
  - a) The motion was seconded by Evan Owen.
  - b) The motion was approved: 12 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions
- 10. Discussion of the schedule for future meetings of the Trails Committee resulted in consensus that the meetings should be held every two weeks until subcommittees are formed and the goals of the Committee have been clarified. The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, 1998, at 7:30 p.m.
- 11. Paul Funch moved: That the meeting be adjourned.
  - a) The motion was seconded by Brad Paul.
  - b) The motion was approved: 12 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions
  - c) The first meeting of the Trails Committee was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Paul G. Funch  
Secretary

---

Date

These minutes were approved on April 22, 1998:  
10 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions