

Groton Trails Committee
Minutes of Meeting
August 17, 1999

Location: Conference Room, Town Hall

Members In Attendance:

Bruce Clements, Bruce Easom, Wendy Good, Stephen Legge, Brad Paul, David Riggert

Members Absent:

Robert Catlin, Paul Funch, Douglas Furciniti, Edward McNierney, Stephen Prendergast

Guests:

None

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:52 p.m.
- 2) David Riggert moved to accept the minutes of the July 20, 1999 meeting. The motion was seconded by Steve Legge and unanimously approved.
- 3) Brad Paul notified the Trails Committee that he will be representing the Trails Committee at the Selectman's Meeting on 30 August 1999. Brad asked for input on what the Trails Committee would like to bring to the attention of the Selectmen. The following items were mentioned.
 - a) The Trails Committee requests that resources be allocated to survey the land on Jenkins Road. The issue of access here has been ongoing for about three years and the Trails Committee is in need of facts to determine the proper course of action. A survey of the area seems essential.
 - b) The Trails Committee requests that the Town Council review the results of the survey to determine the course of action (if any) to regain Jenkins Road access.
 - c) The Trails Committee recommended that Brad Paul tell the Selectman of our recent accomplishments. They include:
 - i) Producing the map of the Town Forest Trails. This includes doing the GPS survey work, generating the map and posting it on the web. As the first mapping effort of the Trails Committee this involved laying the foundation for further trail mapping in the town.
 - ii) Placing trailhead markers in the Northwoods subdivision to mark where trails on the Groton Conservation Trust lands meet the town roads.
 - iii) Clearing trails in the McLain's Woods subdivision

- iv) Success with the “Project-a-Month” program where committee members organize and carry out one trail clearing, mapping or marking project each month.
 - v) Cleaning the debris from the Williams Barn site. Discarded wood, metal and household appliances were removed from the Williams barn in preparation for restoration.
 - vi) The Trails Committee walked the Skyfields II sight to determine if the boundary markers placed by the landowner were consistent with the plot plans. The markers were found to be placed correctly. We recognize that the trail corridor is impassible and the actual trail cuts across the corner of one property owner’s property.
 - vii) The Trails Committee walked the Campbell land and identified trail connections in the proposed Brooks Orchard subdivision.
 - viii) The Trails Committee reviewed the trail linkages on the Cassella land.
 - ix) As a future project, the Trails Committee will help build a cart bridge over two streams near the Partridge Berry Woods subdivision
- d) Dave Riggert suggested that Brad ask the Selectman to consider giving some priority for trail preservation in the revision of the Master Plan.
- 4) Bruce Clements agreed to contact Brad Paul whenever the Planning Board was scheduling a site walk. This would allow the Trails Committee an opportunity to identify existing trails on the property.
- 5) Wendy Good and Dave Riggert suggested that the next mapping task should be to create a town map showing the existing trail system.
- 6) Brad Paul and Stephen Legge suggested that we try to get the task of trail marking and maintenance added to the Trails Committee’s mission statement.
- 7) The following reports were made on the monthly projects.
- a) July/August Northwoods Trail Head Marking – Bruce Easom and Wendy Good
6 trailhead markers were placed and 3 posts remain. The auger broke before all the posts could be placed.
 - b) September Cart Bridge Project – Dave Riggert
The job is scheduled for the last week in September and the first week of October. Issues currently being worked are trail creation, bridge placement and wood availability

- c) October Trail Race in the Town Forest – Paul Funch
The trail race will be similar to last year's race and is scheduled for 24 October 1999.
 - d) November Hawtree subdivision trailhead marking – Wendy Good, Bruce Easom
4 posts are needed to mark the trail heads in the Hawtree subdivision
 - e) A suggestion was made to consider marking the trails on the Mayfield property as a monthly project.
- 8) Dave Riggert presented an update on the status of the abandoned railway trail. He suggested that, as a wintertime project, to identify the Boston & Maine Railway right-of-way on the west side of Groton. It is important to find out how soon B&M intends to sell this land. It is also important to see if state funds are available to develop this into a trail.
- 9) A motion to adjourn was made by Stephen Legge and seconded by David Riggert. The vote to adjourn was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce H. Easom
Secretary

26 February 2000

Date

These minutes were approved unanimously on 21 September 1999.