

Groton Trails Committee
Minutes of Meeting - DRAFT
June 20, 2000

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Location: Downstairs, Legion Hall

Members of Groton Trails Committee in Attendance:

Robert Catlin, Bruce Clements, Bruce Easom, Paul Funch, Wendy Good, Stephen Legge, Edward McNierney, Brad Paul, Stephen Prendergast, David Riggert

Members of Groton Trails Committee Absent:

None

Guests:

None

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 8:10 P.M.
- 2) Bruce Clements made a motion to approve the minutes of the 16 May 2000 meeting as amended. David Riggert seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 3) The first topic of discussion was nominations for the positions of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary for the coming year. Ed McNierney moved that we elect Bob Catlin as Chairman, Brad Paul as Vice Chairman and Wendy Good as Secretary for the 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2000 year. Steven Prendergast seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 4) Wendy good described her meeting with the Conservation Commission concerning Sorhaug Woods. Wendy showed the Trails Committee a map showing the trails we have permission to mark and trim. The Conservation Commission said that no further trails could be cleared until the wildlife study is complete.
- 5) Brad Paul updated the Committee on the Fitch's Bridge Restoration Project. Brad said it was possible to submit a proposal to the Massachusetts Historical Commission to receive a \$15,000 grant to be used for both the preliminary and final bridge designs. Once the final design is in hand, one can apply for an "ice T" grant to fund the actual restoration.
- 6) Paul Funch updated the Committee about the Trail Race. This years race will begin at 1230 PM on Sunday 22 October 2000. Paul said he had already received one application. Paul indicated that the insurance coverage for the race was being taken care of in the same manner as last year.

- 7) Trailhead markers were discussed. There are a number of trailheads that need to be marked. Some are needed on trail easements rather than on town-owned land which may present a problem, depending on the details of the easement. It was pointed out that it might be possible to place trailhead markers on the shoulder of the road which is still town-owned property. It was indicated that Castle Drive needed trailhead markers. There is a trail easement running a long distance between two houses. If one did not know there was an easement there, one would probably believe they were trespassing on private property. This should be marked to make sure that people know there is a public access way. Wendy Good agreed to contact the Conservation Commission to see if they would approve marking this trailhead.

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- 8) The Committee reported on the status of the monthly projects
- a) The September project will be to trim the trails at Sorhaug Woods for which we have already been given approval by the Conservation Commission.
 - b) Re-routing the trail on the Wiewel property was pushed back to August. It had been scheduled for July.
 - c) A new July project was needed so Bruce Easom volunteered to contact Sue Yeager of the New England Forestry Foundation to see about mapping the Wharton Plantation. The date for mapping is tentatively scheduled for the 15th and 16th of July. Ed McNierney, Dave Riggert and Bob Catlin agreed to help on this project.
- 9) Brad Paul reported on his meeting with the Selectmen concerning the MBTA railroad right-of-way on the western edge of town. Apparently, the MBTA is no giving it away. When asked if we should get this on the agenda for an upcoming Selectmen's meeting, the Selectmen indicated that it might be better if we waited until the Friedrich's case gets resolved.
- 10) There will be a vote tomorrow (21 June 2000) for debt exclusion of the Throne properties on which the town voted to exercise its Chapter 61 options. Debt exclusion will require a simple majority vote.
- 11) Stephen Prendergast made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed McNierney seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.