

**Groton Trails Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**November 22, 2000**

**Location:** Downstairs Legion Hall

**Members in attendance:** Bob Catlin, Bruce Easom, Paul Funch, Wendy Good, Ed McNierney, Brad Paul

**Members absent:** Bruce Clements, Stephen Legge, David Riggert, Steve Prendergast

The meeting was called to order with a quorum at 7:35 pm.

The minutes of September 19 were approved (5 votes for & 1 abstention).

Bob Catlin promised to have the notes of the October meeting finished for the next meeting.

Jenkins Road: Brad reported that Mike Mortella (David E. Ross and Assoc.) has done a thorough research of all documents back to 1850. They, like this committee, conclude that ownership is only to the center road line. Mike is now to get the plot plan to the town clerk so the attorneys can review the document. Next step is a field survey. Brad will follow up to be sure things are proceeding and report to us at the next meeting.

Partridgeberry Bridge: Eagle Scout Kevin Driscoll has obtained the needed Conservation Commission approval. He has run into problems obtaining the landowner's approval because of liability concerns by Mr. Taisey. We suggested the Boy Scout liability insurance and the town liability insurance coverage be investigated to see if either of these would cover this issue.

Trail Marking: Paul reported he and Dann Chamberlain have marked the Fitch-Wood, McLain wood conservation land trails. Two posts were also installed on Reedy Meadow Rd. Paul has also started to mark the Town Forest trails that we have permission to mark. When marking the McLain Woods trails, the Carver private land that the trail crosses was not marked. Ed and Paul are to work on a template for negotiating with owners about such trail issues.

Throne Hill: LandWest plans to develop this area where there are many trails and wetlands. Discussion followed as to the importance of saving these trails and how best to achieve this. Other issues on the Throne are the Dr. Gleason easement that was given when 20 acres was subdivided into two house lots. This 20 foot easement from Pepperell Road was purchased by NEFF. However the access, which was steep to begin with, has been made impassible by blasting. Bob has contacted NEFF to see if a better access can be obtained.

Integrity Way: At the cul-de-sac the trail is a mess. No progress has been made.

Trail Race Report: Paul reported they had made the most money of the three years this race has been held. They doubled the three-mile race entries. Bob complimented Paul on an impressive event. Nevertheless, a few too many runners got lost, which marred the trail race. Discussion followed on how to improve the event. Better marking, lime on the ground, meeting with staff before race day, maps at start, more empowered teams and more knowledgeable staff. This race gives us a substantial trail fund to fund our projects.

Trail Markers: It was voted to order 1,000 trail markers, a dozen posts as needed, and one GPS for trail mapping. Ed is authorized to buy the one handheld GPS for a cost up to \$250.

Trail Project: Brad noted the Girl Scouts are looking for a trail project. Either Fitch-Woods or Groton Conservation Trust land on the Throne were suggested as possible areas for trimming. Ed volunteered to bring this up at the next GCT meeting to see if we could obtain approval for this and future trail projects.

President resigning: Bob Catlin reported he will be starting an MBA program in January. So, with regret, Bob will be resigning at the next meeting. We also have an open Trails Committee member slot and we discussed how we might get candidates to come forward.

Town Parcel Inventory: Wendy reported on the Town's large parcel inventory that will be considering trail linkage. Wendy also mentioned she has information about money grants from the state for trail projects.

Next meeting December 19, 2000 at 7:30 pm