

Groton Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2001

Location: Downstairs, Legion Hall

Members in attendance: Brad Paul, Steve Legge, Paul Funch, Bruce Clements, Ed McNierney, Wendy Good, David Riggert

Guest: Don Torgersen

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm

Minutes: November's minutes were approved with one abstention (Steve); January's meeting minutes were approved with one abstention (Steve) and April's minutes were approved with one abstention (Brad).

Jenkins Road: Brad reported on the meeting with Town Counsel, David Doneski. Mr. Doneski suggested more information is needed before any determinations can be made. Town Meeting records and local papers need to be researched to determine the history of the road. A survey to locate the bounds also is needed. Determining when the road was originally maintained and plowed by the Town would be helpful. The committee unanimously voted to ask the Selectmen to authorize the survey, determine what permissions are required for the survey, and proceed with legal clarification of whether any right of way exists on Jenkins Rd. from its usage over the years as a road, both for frontage and as a pathway.

Subdivision Marking: The Conservation Commission requested we mark Integrity Way. No progress has been made and there were questions as to who has the maps. We need to follow up on this. Ed, Paul, and Don are planning to locate the trail bounds there and in Meadowview on May 20th.

Trail Marking Policy: The issue of ripping down other groups' markers in the Town Forest brought up the question of what should our policy be on markers. We want all users under our umbrella. We decided not to remove other groups' permanent markers and push for removal of temporary markers in a timely fashion.

Sidewalk Issues: Paul brought up that since the Sidewalk Advisory Committee is disbanded, he felt we should ask the Selectmen to expand our Charter to include an advisory role on sidewalks. Discussion followed as to there not being much interest in being involved in sidewalk repair issues but we want to be involved in relevant issues such as new sidewalks connecting to the Rail Trail. It was decided that we would ask for sidewalks to be included in our Charter.

Trail Projects: Steve reported that he has decided on the aluminum signs for the Town Forest. A sample sign was passed around and meet approval. Bruce suggested contacting Representative Hargraves to see if a wider shoulder could be provided for a bike path on the Route 119 and Route 225 bridges. Consensus was we should do this. Questions of whether the Town has a metal detector are still unanswered.

Election of Officers: It was voted that as of July 2001 the officers be Bruce Easom as Chairman, Brad Paul as Vice Chairman, and Ed McNierney as Secretary.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.