

# Groton Trails Committee

## Meeting Minutes

### November 20, 2001

**Members in attendance:** Ed McNierney, Bruce Easom, Wendy Good, Bruce Clements, Paul Funch, Don Torgersen, and Brad Paul

**Minutes:** Bruce Easom circulated the minutes of the October meeting. Corrections were discussed. Clements moved the minutes be approved with recommended corrections and Funch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with McNierney abstaining.

**Hurd Property:** Clements reported on the Conservation Commission's vote to purchase the Hurd property and to apply for a self-help grant to reimburse up to 58% of the purchase price. The Conservation Commission has to get two appraisals. There are a few more hurdles before the deal is done, but it's moving along well.

**Town Forest Trail Races:** Paul Funch reported on the Trail Race and its finances. We have nearly \$3,500 available in net proceeds, so we are getting in a good position to apply for State grants and other projects that require matching funds from us. Bruce Easom complimented Paul and all the volunteers for a well-done race,

**Town Forest Signage:** Paul Funch reported that Steve Legge is working on new signage for Town Forest trail intersections. The total cost will be \$200-\$300 for about 60 heavy aluminum signs.

**Longley II:** The trail from Drumlin Hill Road to the gravel pit is completely clear; some more work is needed to finish clearing it out to the Rail Trail. Paul Funch has the as-built plans for this subdivision. All the information needed for marking the Saddle Lane entrance is now available. The Conservation Commission voted to prohibit hunting on these properties, although there is no action plan to post signs to that effect. Paul Funch will follow up with Beth Montgomery for the signage plan.

**Metal Detector:** Ed McNierney will investigate the purchase of a metal detector. Clements moved to authorize the purchase of a metal detector not to exceed \$150. Funch seconded the motion. All voted in favor, except Good opposed. Ed McNierney will talk to Tom Delaney as part of his research.

**Trail techniques:** Discussion about various trail entrance marking and surfacing techniques ensued. We may talk to Tom Delaney for assistance with materials, equipment, or labor.

**Hawtree:** Paul Funch reported George Marsh's concern about the location of the trail corridor at Hawtree it's rather steep. Paul will follow-up with George and other interested committee members to design the best trail route.

**Paquawket Path:** Paul Funch reported landowner objections to the use of the Paquawket Path easement. Wendy Good showed a copy of the deed describing the easement, which is a 30-foot wide public access pedestrian easement. She will follow up with Michelle Collette to get the right of way language from the plan.

**Signage:** Paul Funch mentioned the need to develop signage for various permissions and restricted uses for trail corridors and easements.

**Integrity Way:** Ed McNierney will print a map of the Integrity Way trail mapping work.

**Wiewel:** Good reported on the need for additional trail posts at Skyfields II to clarify the location of the trail corridor through the long straight stretch just up the hill from Skyfields Drive.

**Flavell Crossing:** Good talked to Michelle Collette about the Painted Post Road plans after finding the entrance difficult to spot at the end of the subdivision road.

**Jenkins Rd.:** Brad Paul has not yet written to the Selectmen concerning Town counsels help on Jenkins Road. A trail easement in the Cunningham development on Gratuity Rd. will provide an alternate connection; a bridge may be built, but it's not clear whether the Town will have the right to mark the trail. Bruce Easom suggested talking to Stan Dillis on marking this easement. Brad Paul and Don Torgersen will start the process of working with the landowners (Richard Marsh and Isabel Godfrey) to get any necessary permits in place.

**Gleason Connector:** Wendy Good raised the issue of the driveway blasting encroaching on the NEFF Gleason Connector trail corridor. She will contact Bob Catlin for information.

**Sorhaug Woods:** The Sorhaug Woods Management Plan includes references to recreational opportunities and areas for trail development. Wendy Good will follow up with the Conservation Commission to see if they are interested in seeing a plan for trails.

Good moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm. Brad Paul seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.