** Monthly Meeting Minutes ** DRAFT
19 April 2005
Town Hall

Attendees: Joachim Preiss
Paul Funch
Stephen Legge
Bruce Easom
Wendy Good
Ed McNierney
Mike Andersen
Vic Burton
Brad Paul

Visitors: Helene Cahen
Chris Coutu
(Groton Water Department)

1. Approval of February '05 meeting minutes
2. Approval of March '05 meeting minutes as amended
3. Wallace Road: Legge reported on completion of opening of the trail. Legge, Easom, and Wendy and Carl Good provided the efforts. A neighbor and his son burned brush that was collected. Trail is now open and can be used as a connector. Roughly 600 ft. were cleared. Tree stumps still need to be removed, plus some pruning is needed. Barbara Ganem confirmed that there is a 300 ft. long/20ft. wide corridor parallel to the MBTA right of way on the side away from the river. Former tracks are on top of embankment and the parcel runs parallel to the bottom of the embankment and appears dry.

4. Deerhaven: Easom held field excursion with Evan Owen to do unofficial survey of boundaries of conservation parcel around eastern borders of house lots on the easterly side of Deerfield Drive. They put in 3 temporary additional boundary markers. In their opinion, trail is clearly on town property. Easom called Barbara Ganem who wanted to send a letter to the owner. Received permission to mark trail that week (4/18/05).

5. Acorn Path and Carmichael Swamp will soon be investigated for potential trail development.

6. Chris Coutu from Groton Water Department (GWD) presented a proposal on the use of GWD’s Trimble GEOExplorer CE GPS unit by the Trails Committee on weekends. Field accuracy of this differential technology unit is within a few meters. Chris collects data on trails, fire roads, and other physical features for EMT, Police, and Fire Department. He offered to help us with collecting and overlaying data from trails and sidewalks. Data can be overlaid on GIS/Assessors Maps. It was noted that the last flyover was in 1998. Easom mentioned occasions when he encountered 15 ft. differences between bounds and the Assessors map. Trails Committee is grateful for being offered this tool. Easom volunteered to be the primary interface with Chris Coutu.

7. Legge awarded Funch the Groton Trails Committee's first Exceptional Volunteer Award. Award was initiated by Legge, and the plaque was designed by Preiss with feedback from Legge and other Trail Committee members. Reads: "Groton Trails Committee. Exceptional Volunteer Award. presented to. Paul Funch. in recognition of tireless devotion, long-running commitment, leadership and significant contributions to the Groton Trails Network and management of seven annual Groton Town Forest Trail Races. 1998 – 2004. Groton, Massachusetts presented April 2005." (copy attached).

8. Easom moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 PM; Preiss seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
Groton Trails Committee

Exceptional Volunteer Award

presented to

Paul Funch

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1998 - 2004

Groton, Massachusetts  presented April 2005