



# TOWN OF GROTON

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Groton Trails Committee

## \*\* Meeting Minutes \*\* DRAFT 15 August 2005

**Attendees:**

Chairman Joachim Preiss  
Vice Chair Paul Funch  
Members Stephen Legge  
Bruce Easom  
Wendy Good  
Ed Bretschneider  
Ed McNierney  
Chris Shaffer  
vacant

**Visitors:**

Helene Cahen

**DRAFT**

At 7.30 pm Chairman Preiss called the meeting to order with the above quorum of Committee members.

**Topics**

(1) Election of officers:

Good moved to elect the following officers for the 2005/2006 FY: Chair: Preiss, Vice-chair Funch, Secretary: McNierney; Bretschneider seconded; YEA: Preiss, Funch, McNierney, Good, Bretschneider, Easom, Legge; NAY: none; abstain: none.

(2) Report on recent events

a. Acorn path

Bruce reported that neighbor to the West has been voicing his opposition to the trail. Easom explained his exploration using a GPS system 3 weeks ago. Located a telephone pole half way. He also flagged the trail. Flags were vandalized. The committee discussed painting the trees instead of trail markers. Easom will use Water Department GPS to locate the trail once again. After ConsCom approval we will install 2 enforced trail posts.

b. NEFF – Wharton Plantation

Preiss reported that the trail along Old Dunstable Road needs use to keep it from overgrowing. Peter Morrison filed a CPC application for material for 2 bridges.

c. Gibbet Hill:

Legge and Funch cleaned up top of the hill from multiflora rose, and trail along Rt. 40. Wet spots along Rt. 40 need help from the highway department. First 50ft. section needs gravel or planks. Visitor Helene Cahen reported that low area near summit is difficult to cross by horse. Culvert is difficult to dig, boardwalk ideal, but not for horses. Trail markers not clearly visible.

d. High School Bridge

Permission was granted. As soon as school starts again the director of buildings and grounds will build it.

e. Surrenden Farms site "walk"

Monday morning 7am meeting with Surrenden Farms Steering Committee. The need to GPS the property and trails was identified. Need to seek permission. Easom and Legge in charge.

Contact: John Greenhalgh 978-337-0900 hays the property and knows it very well.

f. Others

Angus: poison ivy disappeared;

Angus Hill top needs mowing per deed;

Trail markers in town forest are in great shape;

Water department to install a well and pipe in town forest which could disrupt the trail races;

Shirley and Peterborough Rail trail passed in Townsend spring ballot;

**DRAFT**

(3) Planning of future events

- a. Williams Barn Trail reroute;
- b. Amanda's Way;
- c. Good: Harry J Ridge Forest: second river loop bridge project. Talked to Ed Turculetti.
- d. Longley I/Paquette: needs survey per Barbara Ganem as trail gets moved. Needs clarification on access. Needs clarification if bikes can be ridden, or need to be walked, or if motorized traffic was banned only. Marking of the trail is not clear either. Posts on road and on rail trail are no problem.

(4) Press releases

Paul Funch award

Trail Marker press release

(5) Grotonfest plans and needs

Funch to send a list for volunteers to sign up.

(6) Update on Town Forest Trail Races 10/22 Sunday

Funch looking for giveaway gadgets.

(7) Other business:

Color coding: have colors for different types of trails , e.g. white = thru trail, yellow = loop, etc.  
Kiosk is key showing a map with a legend. Each property is unique.

Funch moved to adjourn meeting at 9.30pm. Motion carried unanimously.