



TOWN OF GROTON

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Groton Trails Committee

**** Monthly Meeting Minutes ****

15 November 2011

Attendees:

Chairman	Paul Funch	X
Vice Chair	Joachim Preiss	X
Members:	Ed Bretschneider	
	Wendy Good	X
	Stephen Legge	X
	John Lynch	
	David Minott	X
Recorder	Alan Taylor	X
	John Wiesner	X

Visitors:

X	Christopher Marsh, Boy Scout Troop 1
X	Dean Marsh, parent
X	Anna Eliot, Selectwoman

Chairman Funch called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Joachim Preiss moved to accept the minutes of the October meeting; Alan Taylor seconded and the minutes were approved.

2. Chris Marsh provided a status report on his Eagle Scout Project which was GPS mapping of several properties including Hayes Woods, Bertozzi, and Johnson properties. The data has been collected and the information now needs to be layered onto the town maps. Chris Marsh collected funds to support his project and since not all the funds were needed, he indicated a desire to donate the unexpended balance of \$470.02 to the Groton Trails Committee. The chair will research the proper way for the committee to accept the donation. Chris Marsh also donated two GPS units that he used to do the mapping to the Groton Trails Committee. Mssrs. Marsh offered to help the committee with the transition of the data.

3. Follow-ups from previous meetings.

A) On November 6, 2011, Dave Minott led a guided hike on the Gamlin Esker Trail. About 10-12 people attended, including Bob Gamlin the donator of the land, Suzanna Black, the steward, and a young child who was the delight of everyone.

B) Joachim Preiss gave a report on the Wiewel Trail. A section is extremely wet and needs to be re-routed. We need to confirm the location of the trail by GPS in order to flag it and then get permission, if needed, to re-route it.

C) Paul Funch reported that there were good crews who participated in the Blackman and Hurd properties clean-up.

D) Discussions with property owners are on-going about plans for a trail through the Sampas parcel. Development decisions are not yet finalized so a trail corridor also cannot be finalized.

E) Paul Funch reported on trying to establish a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Town Forest Committee. Discussions are continuing. They want advance notice of any work projects.

F) Paul Funch has reached out to the Groton Conversation Trust to establish an MOA. Discussions are on-going.

G) Paul Funch reported on the Town Forest Races sponsored by the Friends of the Groton Trails Committee and provided an accounting of the budget. The Trails Committee is grateful to all the work of the "Friends" to raise money to support trail maintenance.

4. Selectwoman Eliot joined the meeting briefly to inform the committee that the Shepley Hill property suffered extreme storm damage (October 30, 2011 storm).

5. Joachim Preiss stated he believes that each member should have two projects a year. Discussion ensued and there was consensus that the committee should develop a list of projects and prioritize them first.

By unanimous vote, meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.