



TOWN OF GROTON

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Groton Trails Committee

** Monthly Meeting Minutes **

May 20, 2014

Attendees:

Chairman	Paul Funch	X
Vice Chair	Joachim Preiss	X
Members:	David Burnham	X
	Wendy Good	X Recorder
	Olin Lathrop	X
	Stephen Legge	X
	David Minott	X
	Jim Molaskey	X
	David Pitkin	X
	Scott Stathis	
	John Wiesner	X

Visitors:

Blake Abraham
Mr. Abraham

Call to Order

At 7:30 p.m. Chairman Funch called the meeting to order with the above Committee members present.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of April 15th minutes was deferred till next meeting since they were not emailed to all committee members.

Reports

a) Eagle Scout Projects

Blake Abraham, a sophomore looking to become an Eagle Scout, discussed a bridge he would like to do for his project. It would be on a trail in the town's Flavell Crossing Conservation Area. A stream crossing will require a 20-foot long and 4-foot wide foot bridge. It will have three 2 x 10 supports propped on flat rocks. The estimated cost is \$1,100, for which Blake plans fund raising. Olin L. offered to help Blake apply to the Conservation Commission for permits.

Discussion ensued on Will Premru's lack of approval from the Conservation Commission for the 100-foot Gibbet Hill bridge over a very wet area in the saddle.

Guided hikes

David M. reported they had nine participants on the Gamlin Indian Rock hike on May 4th.

Fifteen participated in the May 18th Town Forest hike Olin L. lead, which was jointly sponsored with the AMC.

Trail Projects

- 1) Olin L. reported that he plans a bridge project Sunday, May 25th on NEFF's Wharton Plantation. He has all the wood and blocks but needs a truck to transport it to the site.

- 2) Joachim P. reported on successfully completing the Williams Barn/Sorhaug bog bridge and trail rerouting. RDA was not required due to the seasonal nature of wet area and temporary (not anchored) bridge.
- 3) Paul F. reported that Groton Conservation Trust has approved a new loop trail that loops out to Nashua Road on the Still Meadow property. A signed entrance and opening on Nashua Road will also be added.
- 4) David M. proposed a hiking trail footbridge at the Gamlin Crystal Springs Conservation Area on Indian Rock Trail where the return leg crosses a stream. This will avoid a precarious beaver dam crossing. David M. passed out a three-page detailed plan. The committee endorsed the plan. Next step is to get approval from the Groton Conservation Trust.

Signage

Steve L. has been studying more signage for various trails. Routed wood has been selected in the past. Olin L. volunteered to research costs and potential vendors.

Riverfest

Groton Greenway River festival is June 8th from 11am to 4pm. David M. volunteered to coordinate coverage of the booth, set up, etc., via email so Trails Committee can be represented at this event.

Trail Maps

Wendy G. pointed out that we have two Town Forest maps on our web site. One has letters and numbers at the trail junctions but the map is outdated. The updated map does not label these trail junctions. Joachim P. offered to look into combining maps so we could have the best of both maps on one.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote at 9:20pm.