



# TOWN OF GROTON

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Groton Trails Committee

## **\*\* Monthly Meeting Minutes \*\***

**17 March 2015**

**Legion Hall, 7:30 p.m.**

### **Attendees:**

Chairman	Paul Funch	X
Vice Chair	Olin Lathrop	X
Members	David Burnham	X
	Wendy Good	
	Stephen Legge	X
	David Minott	X
	Jim Molaskey	X
	David Pitkin	
	Jason Remillard	X
	Scott Stathis	(Recorder)
	John Wiesner	X

### **Visitors:**

Mary Metzger

### **Call to Order**

At 7:33 pm, Chairman Funch called the meeting to order with a quorum of committee members present.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Pitkin moved to accept the minutes of the 17 February 2015 meeting.

Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

### **Reports**

a) Lathrop reported 7 people participated in the guided hike held on 15 March at Skinner Forest. Rainy conditions earlier in the day were reported to have stopped just in time for the hike. The event was co-sponsored by AMC and promoted by "Groton Reads."

b) Upcoming Guided Hikes: Lathrop will lead on 12 April, 1PM at Groton Hills.

Minott will lead on 19 April, 1PM at Throne.

Minott will lead on 7 June, 1PM at Gamlin Indian Rock/Boulders Trails.

c) Mary Metzger, from the Conservation Commission, spoke about the need to control non-native invasive plant species. Since July 2014 she has examined 18 conservation properties. One of special concern is Shattuck Homestead/Baddacook which has Black Swallow-wort in fields along with other common invasives. One of Metzger's goals is to access the GTC volunteer work crew email list and have a work day starting in late spring. She is also seeking the names of people who may be interested in stewarding areas. Additionally, Metzger is working on ways to educate people about the importance of eradicating invasives and supporting natural habitat. GTC supports her efforts.

d) Funch gave an update on the Connecting Communities event, "Gift of the Glaciers," on 31 May. On this day Groton will offer guided biking, hiking, canoeing, along with presentations on the Nashua River clean-up history, Groton history, and our unique geological history.

e) Lathrop presented two finished trail sign models constructed at Bridgewater Prison. One sign had more information with smaller lettering, the other had less information with larger lettering. No decision was made on which version was more suitable.

John Ellenberger has offered his services in making wooden trail signs.

f) Funch reported on progress towards a Nashua River Accessible Trail. He completed a final proposal to submit to the CPC for a grant request. Funch says CPC funding seems promising.

g) Funch reported that Groton Community Dinners is seeking town groups like ours to volunteer. Members agreed to sign up.

h) Funch asked members if continuing our annual Riverfest booth on 7 June is doable. Members agreed.

### **Discussion**

a) A discussion was held about interactive map and website development issues: technical and organizational. Members debated on how to keep the site user-friendly while acknowledging the landowners who have made the trails public.

### **Adjournment**

Stathis moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Burnham.

Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:44 pm.