



TOWN OF GROTON

173 Main Street
Groton, Massachusetts 01450-1237
(978) 448-1111
FAX: (978) 448-1115



Groton Trails Committee

** Monthly Meeting Minutes **

June 21, 2016

Attendees:			Visitors:
Chairman	Paul Funch		Grace Remillard
Vice Chair	Olin Lathrop	x	
Secretary	Emma Newman	X	
Members	Paul Barstow	X	
	David Burnham	X	
	Wendy Good	X	
	Stephen Legge	X	
	David Minott		
	Timothy Newman	X	
	David Pitkin		
	Jason Remillard	X	

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Lathrop called the meeting to order with the above Committee members present at 7:00pm on June 21, 2016.

2. Reports/Old Business

a) Approval of Minutes

Good moved to approve the minutes of May 17, 2016; Newman T seconded;

- approved unanimously:

b) Guided Hikes and Bike Rides

- **Completed**

- 5/18 John Tinker Trail – GTC, 12:00 – 4:00PM, Paul – 7 Hikers (Groton's Hidden Treasures Program)
- 5/18 Groton Town Forest – Guided Bike – GTC, 5:30PM, Dave B. – 7 Bikers (Groton's Hidden Treasures Program)
- 5/22 Gamlin Indian Rock/Boulders Trails – GTC/GCT, 1:00PM, Dave M. – 12 Hikers (Groton's Hidden Treasures Program)
- 5/22 Multiple Groton Trails – Guided Bike – GTC, 8:30AM, Dave B. – 5 Bikers (Groton's Hidden Treasures Program)
- 6/5 Gamlin Esker Trail – GTC, 1:00PM, Dave M. – 6 Hikers
- 6/12 General Field/Surrenden Farm – GTC/AMC, 1:00 PM, Olin – 12 Hikers

- **Planned Future:**

- No new hikes are planned at this time (norm for July/August)

c) Donation to Squannacook River Rail Trail

\$150 donation was made by the Trails Committee to the Squannacook Greenways in support of the Squannacook River Rail Trail. Thank you note was received.

d) Expenses

“Hidden Treasures” (5/14-22) Expenses

- \$250 received from the Commissioners of the Groton Trust Funds in addition to the small grant stipend of \$250 from Freedom’s Way (applied for by Funch).
- Total expenses were \$500 (\$450 for the two bus tours and \$50 for the field guides developed for the tour).
- \$100 for expenses that was approved by the committee in April was not needed.

John Tinker Trail Signs Expenses

- Trails Committee members signed invoice for handicapped parking signs in the amount of \$117.00. Invoice to be submitted to Community Preservation Committee for their signatures and reimbursement from the CPA grant.

e) Eagle Scout

Eagle Scout prospect Eric Huber has indicated an interest in building a bridge in Amanda’s Way, Johnston, or the Groton Hills parcels.

f) Signage and Mapping

Lathrop showed the Hazel Grove sign image. Final creation of sign is on hold, pending extra trail planned and flagged by Hazel Grove Committee.

Steve Legge arrived 7:15pm

g) Grotonfest Participation

Annual participation in Grotonfest (September 24th) and \$50 fee was discussed.

Good moved to participate, Burnham seconded

- approved unanimously

h) Greenway River Festival report

Trailer was very valuable and made movement of equipment a lot easier. Burnham noted that the trailer had 4-pin electrical connector only, and not all tow vehicles have 4-pin connections.

Recommendation was to purchase a 4-pin to 7-pin electrical adapter; cost would be approx. \$14.

Good made a motion to authorize Dave Burnham to get universal trailer electrical adapter for a cost of no more than \$30. Burnham seconded motion.

- approved unanimously

Feedback from event was that attendance was good. Newman E recommended that creation of a

photo board using Lathrop's photos to display wildlife, notable features on trails, and work that Trails Committee does.

- **Action for next meeting** - Newman E to mock something up for committee to review. Aim to have something created for Grotonfest.

i) Invasive Species Committee

Lathrop reported that the Invasive Species Committee would like to use our Groton Trails email list to send out email notifications of Invasive Species upcoming activities.

- Agreed by committee for "one time" use, as committee determined the trail list is for trail related emails.

j) Vandalism Watson Way Parcel

Lathrop reported 5 or 6 trail markers were missing and markers were not found nearby.

- Recommendation by committee was that they should be replaced and put up as high as possible.

k) Trail Maintenance

Barstow, Burnham, Newman T, and Lathrop discussed options to meet up on Wednesday, June 29th, at 4pm off Martins Pond Road in order to do trimming of overgrowth in Warden Plantation.

l) Website

Grace Remillard volunteered to work over her summer vacation to help in redesigning our website.

Committee discussed current website, and had initial recommendations:

- increase number of photos
- remove Events tab
- keep printable maps but need to consider updating them

3. Discussions and New Business:

a) Scarlet Hill

Newman E informed the committee that Meredith Scarlet had talked to her about getting improvements made to the trail from Martins Pond Road (near Orchard Lane) to Scarlet Hill Farm. Due to her work and family commitments, Meredith found it hard to progress so she was asking if Groton Trails Committee might help to move the project along and "facilitate" the process.

Lathrop and Good agreed they may potentially support but want to discuss with her what she was planning.

- Newman E to ask Meredith Scarlet to talk to Lathrop and Good.
- **Action for next meeting: feedback on discussion by Good and Lathrop**

4. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was approved unanimously at 8:52pm