



TOWN OF GROTON

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Groton Trails Committee

**** Monthly Meeting Minutes **** **September 19, 2017**

Attendees:			Visitors:
Chairman	Paul Funch	X	Mathew Wong
Vice Chair	Olin Lathrop	X	Art Wong
Secretary	Tim Newman	X	Grace Remillard
Members	Wanfang Murray		Wendy Good
	David Burnham		
	Stephen Legge	X	
	Jason Remillard	X	
	Jim Peregoy		
	Dan Patnaude		
	Darcy Schultz	X	
	Bob Ordemann	X	

1. Call to Order

Funch called the meeting to order with the above committee members present at 07:02pm

2. Approval of May Minutes

Lathrop moved to approve the minutes, as amended (detail below), of May 16, 2017; Ordemann seconded the motion.

- Small amendment to attendees – add Burnham to list of attendees

Approved with one abstention (Legge)

2. Reports / Old Business

a) Boy Scouts project status

- Jeremy Sickles: Amanda's Way/GWD bridge and trail re-routing.
 - Funch reported: This is completed.
- Will Hughson: Throne Hill bog bridge.
 - Funch reported: Being worked on and should be finished before the winter. Permission from GCT being sought to be able to drive the materials to site.
- Zach Miller: replacing trailhead posts and guide posts.
 - Funch reported: Ongoing activity and should be finished before the winter
- Matthew Wong: geo-fencing points of interest.
 - Wong demonstrated the Android app functionality he wrote and explained his

- progress to-date.
- Olin proposed a motion to approve the app as seen: Seconded by Ordemann.
 - Unanimously approved
- Waypoints need to be gathered and supplied for the app to be finished.
 - Funch to review and coordinate what is needed
- b) Guided Hikes review – Olin and Funch reviewed the upcoming Guided Hikes:
 - Williams Barn 09/21
 - Town Forest 10/05
 - Wharton Plantation 10/19
 - Gamlin Crystal Springs 09/24
 - Groton Hills 10/22
 - Groton Town Forest 12/10
- c) Signs Status – Olin reported on Groton Hills Conservation Area / Sawtell Conservation Area proposed sign installation locations and proposed text for the signs.
 - Funch raised a question about the number of the signs and some of the content:
 - The group discussed / reviewed the feedback
 - The sign destinations should be specific
 - The destinations should be grouped by destination and in order by distance
 - Olin agreed to go back and review / update and send around some updated information on the signs and their content
 - Remillard made the comment that the signs are generally unattractive and perhaps could be updated to be more aesthetically pleasing or perhaps we should limit the number of signs
 - Newman commented that perhaps we should purposely limit signage in some areas and in other areas actively provide signage.
 - Schultz suggested that we should perhaps hold a survey during Grotonfest to canvas opinion.
 - It was agreed to setup a sub-committee to review the further feedback and report back to the next committee meeting.
 - Legge commented on the number of lines of information on the signs. The suggestion was that reducing the number of lines from six to five should be considered.
- d) Website and map status – Remillard commented on the progress with the updates to the website, including parking info, history info, printed maps, Town Forest Map and kid friendly walks.
 - Remillard also reported that a student from LA would be completing an animation centered on the Dog Walk Park.
- e) Complete Streets Committee report – Legge provided the report and it is appended to these minutes:
 - 340K USD grant for the Town of Groton:
 - Traffic calming on Main Street including wheelchair ramps, additional cement sidewalks, flashing beacons and special pavement marking
 - Continuation of the sidewalk along Long Hill Road past Riverbend Drive to Groton Place; the pathway would cross the road and continue into the parking lot on the old discontinued road in the woods
 - Two new bicycle repair facilities – along the Nashua River Rail Trail
 - Solar powered flashing speed limit signs outside of Groton Town Centre – locations to be strategic for speed control for bicyclists' safety.

- f) Funch confirmed that the recently purchased trail crossing signs have been installed by the DPW.
- g) Groton Trust funds lecture grant – Mr. Peter Westover, Wed 25 Oct, 7pm @ GPL
 - Funch reported that funding has been received, the room had been booked and speaker confirmed.
- h) Trail project reports:
 - RDA for Groton Hills bridge and bog bridge
 - Olin reported RDA is in progress to add bridge; then we can plan to complete the project at next opportunity within the next three years
 - Youth community service assistance
 - Funch reported that community service hours have contributed to some remarking of trails and some mowing activities
 - Eliot Easement has been cleared and marked. Trail Committee expresses its thanks to Anna Eliot for the “Appreciation Social” she hosted at her house in August.
 - Stoddart Trail has been opened and marked.
 - Wattles Pond – new trail completed parallel to Longley Rd. to safely connect the parking area and the trail around the pond
- i) Trails Committee volunteer’s appreciation gifts
 - i. Hats – Funch showed an example for consideration
 - ii. Shirts – still under review

3. Discussions / New Business

- a) Grotonfest – 09/23 - Booth schedule and display info
 - Funch to send out an email asking for committee members to select times for manning the booth
 - Newman to review content for trails board for Grotonfest
- b) Groton Town Forest Trail racing event – 10/15 – please put this in your calendar
- c) Purchase gas hedge trimmer:
 - Olin made the proposal to authorize Paul Funch to spend up to \$500 for the purchase of a second gas hedge trimmer. Remillard seconded the motion
 - Unanimously approved
- d) John Ellenberger’s trail map sign (carved in wood by computer-guided router) was shown to the committee. John is waiting for the committee to send him a complete and correct set of trails on The Throne.
- e) Support for Riverwalk project along Nashua River behind Partridgeberry subdivision – enhancing existing trail
 - Funch asked for the committee’s support as this project moves forward. Approvals by many other organizations will be necessary to move the project forward.
 - Funding applications would need Trails Committee support at some points in the future
 - Olin proposed that we approve the general concept of the Riverwalk as proposed by Funch. Seconded by Ordemann
 - Unanimously approved
- f) Trailer decal – large trail marker sign
 - Olin to review options

4. Adjournment

Olin moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:13pm. Seconded by Darcy.

- Approved unanimously.