



TOWN OF GROTON

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Groton Trails Committee

**** Monthly Meeting Minutes **** **December 19, 2017**

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

1. Call to Order

Funch called the meeting to order with the above committee members present at 07:00pm.

2. Approval of November Minutes

Reviewed the Nov 21, 2017 meeting minutes and minor changes to them. Lathrop moved to approve the minutes with changes; Ordemann seconded the motion.

- Approved unanimously

3. Reports / Old Business

a) Guided Hikes

- Lathrop reported on the 12/10 – Town Forest – 3 people attended this hike
- Hikes in Jan, Feb, Mar to be announced

b) Eagle Scout Projects

- No updates this month

c) Signs Status

- The committee discussed signage. Agreement to set up a sub committee – review signs needed in the Groton Hills area. Lathrop agreed to set up this sub-committee
- Funch reported he has ordered the Town Forest markers required to re-mark the two Town Forest Trail Race courses.

- Funch discussed the need for a Horse direction sign – a sign which directs horses one direction and people/bikes another. Lathrop to review a design
- Lathrop reported on trailer decal – Staples, Vinyl adhesive sheet - \$116 42x42” and then \$143 48x48” square, \$50 to cut a circular shape.
- Trail race – Funch reported that circa \$1800 has been deposited with the Town from the Town Forest Trail Race for use by the Groton Trails Committee

d) Website and Map status

- Remillard reported regional group updating maps, asking for updates.
- Updating the regional trail maps – to be held at Devens, Public Meeting 1st Feb 2018, 6pm
- Murray discussed with the committee the way of navigating the map site to find trails by location – a trails around me feature. Can the map open up at where you are located? Thought for future enhancement...
 - More prominent to access the map from the home page – thumb nail?
 - Add an overlay showing the top 10 hikes?
 - Review other town methods to find the best hikes
- Overlays – no update on adding property boundaries + some other trails
- Lathrop reported mapping and measuring from Raddin Road area to update the maps. And Rocky Hill area remapping has been started
- Darcy reported on Kemp Woods – NEFF and continued trails access. A letter to be written by NEFF to allow the trails to be maintained.
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e) Trail Projects Reports

- Funch reported – Pending for spring – Skitapet Conservation Pond – trail review has taken place – Conservation Trust subsequently approved the marking of the trails using Groton Trails Network markers
- Funch reported on the Marion Stoddard Riverwalk – not warmly received by local residents at recent Conservation Commission meeting. Still moving forward, waiting on further information.
- Funch reported on Sabine Woods – Conservation Committee – Groton School – review of dogs on leashes due to river bank erosion and bad interactions between dogs and students. New trail loops being investigated to keep people away from the Groton School.
- Murray discussed about marking the trails in Blackman woods. This is Groton Conservation Trust Property. Historically, no markers and signs have been desired. Funch to make suggestion via Stewardship Committee.

f) Trails Committee Volunteer Appreciation Gifts Status

- No update
- Funch proposed a gift for Grace Remillard in appreciation of all the work she has done on the website. T-shirt/hat/plaque?
- Funch reviewed the volunteer hours log

4. Discussions / New Business

- Next year's goals/projects – Funch reported:
 - a. Gibbett Hill bridge – funding approved

- b. RDA for the Groton Hills bridge construction approved
- c. Town Forest markers
- d. Chamberlain's Mill – developing new trail
- e. Cox-Walker bridge
- f. Rich State Forest – new bridge(s) needed at stream crossings
- Markers colors already tagged in mapping – review for layers
- Review mapping – update OpenStreet map or annotate paper maps and pass to committee for updating. Standardization of the trail legend. “Unmaintained trail” legend description – change the wording to “Other trail” was suggested.

5. Adjournment

Legge moved to adjourn at 8:35pm, Lathrop seconded.

- Approved unanimously