



TOWN OF GROTON

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Groton Trails Committee

**** Monthly Meeting Minutes ****
March 19th, 2019

Attendees: (Present: X)			Visitors:
Chair	Paul Funch	X	
Vice Chair	Bob Ordemann	X	
Secretary	Ryan McMeniman		
Members	Olin Lathrop		
	Jason Remillard	X	
	Jim Peregoy	X	
	Kevin Barrett	X	
	Stephen Legge	X	
	Wanfang Murray	X	
	Kiirja Paananen	X	
	Jonna Branigan	X	

Call to Order

Chair Funch called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

Guided Hikes

Redline Hike- 8 people, 2 leads.

Discussion around how to promote and communicate hike: Facebook, Instagram, Groton Herald, Town Website.

Sign Status

No update.

Dog Regulation/Etiquette Updates

Document put together by Bob. The document uses multiple references from other towns and incorporated Groton's current regulations on dogs and leashes.

The committee agreed to present the document as a draft to several other conversation groups. There will be a meeting on April 9th with the Park Commission to review and discuss. Bob will attend.

Best Practices/Guidelines for Eagle Scouts building bridges on conversation land

Kevin had volunteered at February's meeting to provide a draft best practices document. We discussed the document at this month's meeting and Kevin agreed to update the draft to include Accessibility Recommendations as well as acknowledge requirements that would be required for "horse suitable" bridges.

Trail Projects Reports & Expenditures

Grants for Handicap Accessible Trail

Location: Taisey Conservation Restriction along Nashua River in Partridgeberry subdivision

Design Study: roughly \$30,000

Total Costs: roughly \$200,000

Status: On hold until permission of landowner obtained; looking into finding purchaser for land

Complete Streets Committee Status

Discussion around who had responsibility for clearing snow from the new sidewalks in town. Steve clarified that the town was responsible for sidewalks in and around Groton and West Groton town centers. Most other sidewalks are to be cleared by their respective neighborhoods.

Website & Map Status

Jason has done some work on the website that includes a rotating route of the week. This would be updated weekly. A question was asked whether additional pictures could be included with the routes of the week. Challenges were identified with regards to the format and layout. Further investigation was to be done.

The committee discussed putting a review process in place for web site updates. Although no one wants to slow things down, members felt a little more formality could be beneficial.

Other Reports/Announcements

Squannacook River Runners Club donated a \$1,200 gift to the committee, based on the funds raised at the Groton Town Forest Trail Races back in October. Paul took the action to produce a letter of thanks.

Hidden Treasures-

In the month of May there will be a number of activities associated with trying to get people outdoors and promote the region. This is organized by Freedom's Way.

Nashua 50th Anniversary celebration

May 4th at Nashoba Paddling.

2018 Town Report

Kiirja provided 20 pictures to Steve for inclusion into the Town Report. Steve provided them to Dawn at the Town Hall.

Fitch's Bridge CPC Grant Support

VOTE: The committee voted unanimously to approve support of the grant.

Discussion regarding Leadership Change

Paul discussed the possibility of stepping down as Chair of the Committee for personal reasons. The committee discussed how we could offload some of the activities and responsibilities from Paul over the course of the next several months. Bob as Vice-Chair agreed to take on some additional responsibilities and we all agreed to revisit this topic over the next several months.

2019 Goals and "To Do" List

Review and discussion of the project list. Decision to have Bob review and send out to the committee a proposed priority list for 2019.

Adjournment:

VOTE: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 9:00 PM.