



TOWN OF GROTON

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Groton Trails Committee

**** Monthly Meeting Minutes **** **September 17, 2019**

Attendees: (Present: X)			Visitors:
Chair	Paul Funch	X	
Vice Chair	Bob Ordemann	X	
Secretary	Jason Remillard	X	
Members	Olin Lathrop	X	
	Jim Peregoy		
	Kevin Barrett	X	
	Stephen Legge	X	
	Wanfang Murray		
	John Ellenberger	X	
	Paul Riley		
	Laura DeGroot	X	

Call to Order

Chair Funch called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of July and August 2019 minutes –

VOTE: July minutes, Funch moved, Lathrop seconded, unanimously approved as amended.

VOTE: August minutes, Funch moved, Lathrop seconded, unanimously approved as amended.

Reports/Old Business

Guided hikes reports -

Olin Lathrop - scheduled 5 new guided hikes. Sept 26 Fitch's Bridge, Oct 13 Throne, Nov 10 Kailey's Way, and Dec 15 Ayer/Groton Snake Hill; all on Sundays at 2:00.

Sign reports

Olin Lathrop - no new reports.

John Ellenberger - installed trail posts on Scarlet Hill and Gamlin Crystal Spring and Burntmeadow Rd.

Discussed Hawtree Way trail post location.

Funch - discussed Burntmeadow post. Trail is off of NEFF property, removed trail posts.

Trail projects reports

Ordemann and Legge and cleared the High School cross country course and the Town Forest.

The High School Cross Country Team sent a thank you letter for clearing the trails.

Funch cleared trees and slash from Old Dunstable road trails.

Funch cleared several trails in J Harry Rich State Forest.

12 people attended a trail clearing project on the Esker Trail loop in Wharton Plantation.

Dog regulations/etiquette report

Ordemann posted a document on dog signage that was discussed. The John Tinker trail will have a leash required sign because it is an accessible trail. The next step is to create prototype signs that will be shared with landowners.

Social media report

VOTE: Trail committee voted for Ellenberger to be the central point for communicating guided hikes and other announcements on the internet and local newspapers. Lathrop moved, Funch seconded, unanimously approved.

Boy Scout project updates

Lathrop reported that the Bates-Blackman bridge RDA was approved by the GCC.

Lawn Social for Trails Appreciation

Funch, Lathrop, Ordemann, and Legge attended the lawn party at Anna Eliot's home on Sept 14th.

Grotonfest Planning

Funch paid \$75 booth fee.

Discussed logistics of running the booth.

Website and map reports

Remillard removed Brooks Orchards trails from the website, map, and static maps.

Discussions – Mitigation of Brooks Orchard purchase

Discussed making a loop trail to connect the truncated Chesnutt Hill trails together. A preliminary trail will be scouted, marked with flags, and a walk through with the GCC arranged.

Discussions – Trail naming

A discussion of trail names proposed by Grace Remillard and presented by Jason Remillard.
No votes were taken.

On Throne Hill - drop the northwest loop. Remove extra words.

On J Harry Rich property, name outer trail the Oxbow Trail rather than Swan Trail, and make the northeast trail, Eagle Trail. Make the main trail the J Harry Rich Trail.

Shepley Hills - The Outside loop is the Shepley Loop, replace Stirrup Trail. Keep the Quarry Trail.

Skinner Forest – Duck Pond Trail ok. Skinner trail OK.

Skitapet – Outer loop is Skitapet Loop, remove smaller trail names.

Burntmeadow Trail ok, no names on the rest of the trails.

Funch proposed that we name the main trail on each property after the property.

Adjournment:

VOTE: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 9:07 PM.