



TOWN OF GROTON

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Groton Trails Committee

**** Monthly Meeting Minutes **** **August 17, 2021**

Attendees: (Present: X)			Visitors:
Chair	Paul Funch	X	Wendy Good
Vice Chair	Wanfang Murray		
Clerk	Laura DeGroot		
Members	Olin Lathrop	X	
	Jim Peregoy		
	Harris McWade	X	
	Stephen Legge	X	
	Lisa Ireland		
	Ralph Acaba	X	
	Derek Cianci	X	
	Adam Burnett	X	

Call to Order

Chair Funch called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Approval of July 20 Meeting Minutes

Minor changes to prior month's minutes were suggested.

VOTE: Lathrop moved to accept July 20 minutes as amended. McWade seconded. Unanimously approved.

Project Reports & Other Updates

Signs

New Squannacook River Rail Trail sign (Townsend-Groton border) has been installed. Four others for Priest Trail are on order. Funch led a discussion on the need for a sign ahead of the new Brown Trail intersection with Chicopee Row to prevent bikers from exiting the trail at high speed onto the roadway.

Social Media

New interactive trail maps are now available online. Funch requested that committee members look at areas on the map they are familiar with and note any required corrections.

Whispering Brook

Funch reported that approval has been received from the Conservation Commission for this trail. However, an abutter plans to meet with Conservation Commission next Tuesday, August 24, to appeal this decision. Funch will attend and other GTC members are invited to attend to show support for the planned location of this trail.

Sorhaug Loop Trail

Funch reported that approval has been received from the Conservation Commission for this trail.

Stoddart Riverwalk Trail

Funch reported that he is currently exploring the possibility of installing this accessible trail in J. Harry Rich State Forest or the Farmers and Mechanics parcel.

Brown Trail

Funch reported that he is working with GELD to drill two holes at trail intersection with Chicopee Row to support installation of trail marker posts.

Fitch Estates

Funch reported that approval has been received from the Conservation Commission to install gravel. Gravel has been ordered but has not been delivered so he is looking at alternative sources. McWade offered to pick up and deliver the gravel – Funch will follow up next week.

Mowing, Trail Clearing, Marking, etc.

Funch reported that heavy mowing is underway and asked GTC members to let him know if they are aware of areas that require mowing. Legge suggested we keep track of mileage mowed.

Grotonfest Signups

Funch stated that 7 to 8 Committee members are needed to support this event on September 25, 2021. Four present at the meeting said they would help.

Orientation for New Members

Funch reviewed the GTC rules and granted new members access to the GTC google docs website. He also discussed Memoranda of Agreement with various groups GTC works with (e.g., GCT, NEFF), and reviewed current GTC funding balances.

Adjournment

VOTE: Lathrop moved to adjourn meeting. Cianci seconded. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.