

Minutes of the May 13, 2019 Bolton Trails Steering Committee Meeting

Attendees:

Gordon Taylor (chair), Steve Rothman (note taker), Betsy Taylor-Kennedy, Larry Kunz, Jeff Bryan, Chris Fitzgerald, Greg Matte, Bob Roemer, Hemali Parekh, Alexis Arapoff

1. We thank Rebecca for supplying pizza, even though she wasn't able to attend the meeting.
2. Greg reported that his son finished the Annie Moore bridge on May 12; it was his Boy Scout project. He did a beautiful job. Pictures are here:
<http://boltontrails.org/eagle-scout-project-at-annie-moore>
3. Larry reviewed the Bowers Springs projects:
 - a. Refurbish the parking lot: Joe Lynch provided several designs for the layout of the parking lot. We'll probably go with one that has 18 spots. The to-be-donated Bolton Orchards railroad ties will be used to mark the spots and to try to keep cars within the appropriate boundaries. DPW will pick up the railroad ties from Bolton Orchards and place them in the lot.
 - b. The walking trail along the west side of the lower pond is quite eroded in areas, with the tree roots causing a significant tripping hazard. Larry has identified an appropriate material to put down along the bad sections of the trail, and he's hoping to get it donated. DPW would install it.
 - c. Invasives continue to be a significant problem (this statement is likely to be true forever)-- the plan is to focus on the lower pond this year, with the primary problems being bittersweet and multi-flora rose.
 - d. The drainage from the lower pond is regularly getting blocked. Rebecca has a contractor responsible for maintaining the culvert; Jeff will talk to Rebecca.
4. Drew, Bob R, Jeff B and Larry K spent a day putting in a brand new bridge in Rattlesnake for the new trail going to the old mill foundation near 117. A picture is here (scroll down a little):
<http://boltontrails.org/welcome-and-introduction/blogs>
5. Jeff and Gordon will look at a large pine which is down in Bowers near the Harvard/Bolton line.
6. Chris reported that a bridge is needed at a large wet area in Vaughn Hills. Chris is looking for free "scrap" lumber for the bridge.
7. We looked at the second pass of several options for a new logo for the Trails group. Based on the feedback from the meeting, Chris will send out an email to the full Steering Group asking for comments.

8. Chris has put a huge effort into new maps, based on Open Street Map and uMap. He and Gordon will have a separate meeting to go over many of the detailed items. LATE NEWS: it was held May 20, and Steve also attended. Lots of work was identified.
9. Gordon noted that the BoltonTrail.org domain and website is now fully owned by the Bolton Conservation Trust.
10. It was noted that the annual Bolton Conservation Trust meeting will be Sunday, May 19 at 3:30 at the Winery, preceded by a wild flower trail walk on the Horton trail at 2 PM, led by Elizabeth Bagdonas.
11. Jeff will tell Rebecca about the "404" errors with some of the links in the ConCom section of the Town website.
12. We had a brief discussion about out-of-date information on the trail head signs: both the old trails Gmail address, and that the QR codes point to the trail map PDFs temporarily hosted on the Town website, and need to be changed to the new website. The Gmail address now forwards the the full steering group distribution list; when someone responds to a message sent to that address, their response should be copied to the whole steering group, so everyone knows it's being handled. Steve made his pitch, again, for the QR codes to be "indirect", so if we change the website in the future, we don't need to go into the field to change the signs.

Next Meeting Monday, June 3, 2019 - Houghton Building
