

# Trails Committee meeting – August 24<sup>th</sup> 2016

*Notes in red added by JML 8.25.15*

The group welcomes Susan Jones, and Chris & Erin to their first TC meeting!

## Properties Overview

**1. Bolton Flats** – No updates

**2. Vaughn Hills**– The new “horse trail” needs trail markers – to be installed by Daniel Ickes. Easement location between conservation land and Trust owned “Harris” parcel needs to be GPS tracked. Group needs to determine if existing trail can be relocated to the easement. Daniel Ickes Eagle Scout project proposal is approved for Moen parking lot improvements, a kiosk, trail signs, one bridge, and 6-8 wooden replacement signs. Lowes donated materials being forwarded to scout projects in this property. Girl scouts to replace three bridges during this summer. The DPW has committed to modify the lot entrance. *An 8’ composite deck bridge was installed on 8.22 replacing a makeshift plywood crossing. Greg noted a large cross trail fall down at the southern entrance to the “horse trail.” Susan provided photos of a fall down over the trail along the Northwest section of the pond loop.*

**3. Bowers Springs**– Three laminated property signs installed on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Jeff chain sawed a cross trail fall down on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Trail between Bowers and Bare Hill walked with the Zayka family on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. “Entering Private Property” signs were requested and installed on both ends of the trail on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Three new duckboard style bridges were provided along this route by Tom Denney Camp. The TC visited the property last week of July to make install improvements. Jim Henderson has submitted a proposal to meadow mow this September. *Keith suggested we survey to determine if wire tree wraps are necessary to prevent beaver activity from damaging the bridge or impeding the trail.*

**4. Powderhouse Hill** – Trail section from Quail Run is in poor condition - needing markers and clearing.

**5. Zink-Northwoods** – Possible trail link from Houghton Farm to Northwoods. Group will explore. *Drew has captured GPS data on this trail segment. Jeff will complete a GIS overlay to determine parcel specifics and review easement information. Drew noted a large cross trail fall down near the second bridge coming from Corn Road. Drew also noted a cross trail fall down at the marked trail segment starting from Laurel Drive.*

**6. Rattlesnake Hill** –All junction signs are complete and installed. GPS file is finished and posted to the website. Greg, Bob and Jeff chain sawed a huge cross trail fall down on RS Hill Trail on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Two new wooden signs (a caution sign at the quarry and a directional sign to Old Sugar cul-de-sac) were installed on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. *The annual CR monitoring walk is taking place August 30<sup>th</sup> at 10am.*

**7. Delaney** – GPS file completed and posted to the website on July 25<sup>th</sup>

**8. Annie Moore** – Greg may have additional property updates. A secondary loop and 100’ of trail needs new markers installed. *Greg conducted brush and trail overgrowth clearing along several sections in AM last week. There are three cross trail fall downs on property. One near Bolton Woods Way (Greg) and two near Annie Moore Rd (Chris & Erin).*

**9. Randall-Vinger** – Jeff and Gordon visited this property on August 1<sup>st</sup> to open the trail from Randall Road to the duck board bridge. Additional trail markers were installed. *Greg noted the trail segment heading north from photo #3 is overgrown and needs clearing.*

**10. Gould-White Property** – Property needs trail markers. Gordon and Jeff visited the property on August 1<sup>st</sup> where Gordon chain sawed a cross trail fall down. *Scott cleared a cross trail fall down on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Greg suggested we add an arrow marker to the ConCom sign pointing to the Brendan Ridge trail head and also directional arrows and private property signage at the 3-way intersection north of the filtered forest.*

**11. Welch Pond** – Three new wood directional signs were installed at the intersection near the condos pointing to Welch Pond, Wattaquodock Hill, and W.Berlin Road on August 3<sup>rd</sup> by Gordon and Jeff. String trimmer clearing and trail marker installs also took place.

**12. Wilder Pond** – ConCom and the TC have reviewed the current map with David Russel. The team needs to conduct a site visit for a possible bridge crossing location and connection to Wilder Road. Larry and Jeff cleared the parking lot and main trail entrance on 6.22.

**13. Fyfeshire** – Contact Eric S. to discuss relocating the W. Berlin trail entrance. Friends of Fyfeshire are proposing a renovation project to the stone entrance.

**14. Bolton Loop Trail** – no updates

**15. Danforth** – Greg walked Danforth the week of 6.6. **The loop trail east of the gas pipeline easement up to Barrett's Hill peak needs markers installed.**

### Other TC Items

**1. Town Maps** – Property maps are completed. The first 150 copies of our 2016 Bolton Trails Guide have been finished.

**2. Inventory Spreadsheet** – track materials in storage container and use within properties (on going). The spreadsheet was updated on 6.3 when materials are delivered.

**3. Microsoft One Drive** – store all photos, documents, meeting agendas into this folder (on going).

**4. Next TC Meeting** – is scheduled for September 21st in the Houghton building at 6:30PM

**5. Trail Distances** – a “next step” map project of walking and recording main trail segments using a distance measuring wheel. Greg has completed multiple property surveys having developed a spreadsheet tracking system. Greg presented the project specifics and status. Two levels of survey distance maps will be developed. One will have the letter junctions for every segment for TC use, and the other will use “pins” and distance centered on the segment for public use. Greg will continue his documented process over the summer, as time permits. Jeff will update the maps as necessary. **Greg and Jeff discussed ways to involve the community as part of a contest to guess the number of miles of trails in Bolton. Specifics TBD. Greg has all but two properties measured.**

**6. Rick Merrill (Coventry Wood Rd)** – Rick could use some help clearing the rest of the fall down that landed on the stone wall and across the trail leading from Old Sugar. We cleared this last season, but a 30’ portion on his property is obstructing the stream.

**7. TC Dinner Al Fresco** – a few TC Members are hosting an outdoor dinner at Bowers Springs in September as part of the Trust Gala fundraising event. A guided property walk including customized Trail Guides will be given to the six winning bidders prior to this outdoor dinner. Local meat, produce, and drinks will be prepared on site and served in a pond-side, open-dining outdoor experience. **Anyone interested in helping the team during this event can speak with Larry, Jeff, Gordon, and Greg. This event is scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup>.**

**8. Map Downloads** – tracking software was installed behind each PDF map file to log several data points including number of times download. To date, the maps have been downloaded over 780 times and the GPS files 91 times.

**9. TC in Action 2016** – Two new pages in the Trails Committee menu were created for “TC in Action” property photos. There is a 2016 current year section and a 2015 sub-menu page for last year’s photos. We will plan to create a 2017 page for next season.

**10. Seeclickfix.com** – Susan had suggested the TC review this website for ways the trail users might communicate property needs. <https://gov.seeclickfix.com/>