

Trails committee meeting – July 11th 2015

9-11am, Public Safety Building Conference Room

Present: Karen Overfield, Keith Silver, Larry Kunz, Jeff Larence, Gordon Wallis, Mille and Steve Rothman, Betsy Taylor-Kennedy, Gordon Taylor.

Welcome to new members: Mille and Steve.

1. Bolton has a new Conservation Administrator. Karen has met her. We will try to organize future meetings so that she can attend. We would like to welcome her as soon as possible, perhaps next week.
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2. Action from last time - order material needs for upcoming projects (updated list from 6/17/2015 meeting notes). Done. Karen, Gordon, Betsy
3. Properties Overview. Added new items and project spreadsheet created.
4. Superfluous items in the container: the brush mower is still there and we believe that the rusty desks are still there. Karen has reminded the DPW that these items are in the way.
5. The ConCom trailer is kept at the DPW because its former home behind the Town Hall is now occupied by the MART van. Winslow is the only person on the Trails Committee that has a tow hook on his car. Suggestion: what about adding a tow hook to the Town's own car (a big Ford Crown Victoria)?
6. MapMyHike instructions for the town account are needed for everybody. Larry will send a link to all Committee Members. Update of the town map must be done by the Town's IT consultant. He takes the .gpx data from the MapMyHike account.
7. Eagle Scout Project for John Czekanski: we propose the Bower Springs culvert Bridge. Jeff is an Eagle Scout and has some knowledge about the limits of appropriate tasks. Bridge design to be completed by Jeff, Gordon, Larry and anybody else that's interested. Trails Committee volunteers will do the work that involves powered saws and other potentially dangerous tools, but the Scouts can do assembly work using cordless drills. Meet for a test set up on 7/17 at 9:30 am and 7/21 at 9:30 am – Town Hall.
8. Bower Springs; bog bridges needed in addition to the culvert bridge.
9. White Property Bridge – footings are wobbly now that the bridge has had some time to settle in to place. A Lincoln logs type solution sounds good. Anybody interested helping to fix this can meet on Monday 7/13 at 9:30 am – Town Hall.
10. Tree blow downs were reported by Karen at Vaughn Hill and Rattlesnake. Keith will clear the Vaughn Hill blowdown. Gordon and Jeff will clear Rattlesnake when Jeff returns from vacation.
11. Rocky Dundee. Most construction work is complete, but a 10' section of bog bridge would improve a minor wet patch (Gordon and Larry will look at this). Brush cleared on the path out to

Berlin Road (Larry, Gordon W and Gordon T). Gordon W volunteered to walk the path and add trail markers where appropriate.

12. Bolton Loop Trail. Most people had not seen the brochure from the previous Trails Committee. The Southern section does not exist, but parts of the Northern Section have been marked. The route through the White Property and Rocky Dundee would fit nicely in to a Southern section.
13. The Massachusetts Trail Conference was noticed by Betsy. It's not until November, but sounds very interesting and the venue is local at the Hilton in Leominster. We we might get some good ideas and make some worthwhile contacts. See: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/services-and-assistance/grants-and-technical-assistance/conferences.html>
14. TC Activities and general information are stored in the cloud in a Microsoft OneDrive area. Larry maintains this and will send a link to everybody.
15. Next Meeting TBD, but it might be on a Tuesday evening or early morning so that Michèle can attend.

Items to add to the agenda next time:

- Inventory of Materials – update
- Announcing our activities for a particular area so that neighbors do not get suspicious: a sign with ConCom and our logo plus and a letter from ConCom to show people that we are operating under their authority. Also we could consider a mechanism for collecting information from trail users about problems they have observed.
- Project Spreadsheet review.
- Vaughn Hill Trail marking (colored trails) and finalizing the trail map.