

Minutes of the June 3, 2019 Bolton Trails Steering Committee Meeting

Attendees:

Gordon Taylor (chair), Steve Rothman (note taker), Betsy Taylor-Kennedy, Larry Kunz, Jeff Bryan, Bob Roemer, and via email notes: Chris Fitzgerald, Greg Matte

1. On new maps, Chris, Gordon and Steve met to review Chris' progress, which use uMap, based on Open Street Map. Chris sent out PDFs of the new "base" maps, which show the land types and most of the trails, but no labels. There are lots of minor errors which need to be cleaned up— mostly land status/ownership (conservation, Trust, easements/conservation restrictions, APRs). The planned next step will be for Gordon to call a meeting with Chris and a small number of experts to pick one property to review to define the process. Zink-Northwoods has been proposed. The meeting will probably take place in the Bolton library, because the Wifi in the Houghton building currently is working very poorly, and Bolton-TV (owner of the Wifi) isn't making much progress with Comcast on getting it fixed.
2. Greg sent an email with some updates:
 - a. They did some clearing at Annie Moore.
 - b. They purchased materials for the kiosk. That should go up over the summer.
 - c. He was able to consolidate his GPX files for distribution and use as references for future map building.
3. Larry sent his proposal for work at Bowers (see last month's minutes) to ConCom; they plan to discuss them at their June 4 meeting.
4. Jeff and Larry took out a large pine at Bowers.
5. We had a long discussion about maps on websites. At the end of the discussion, Bob Roemer volunteered to write up a proposal for a "Single Source of Truth" (SSOT) for our maps. LATE NEWS: Bob is circulating a document for review. These are the primary issues:
 - a. We only have permission to host the old maps on the town ConCom website. Right now, there are 3 ways on the ConCom website to get to maps— one goes to the "right" set, one to an older set which needs to be deleted, and one which gives 404 errors (page not found). Jeff will talk to Rebecca about having everything point to the right maps.
 - b. The new Trails website has two sets of map pointers, one to each of the sets on the ConCom website. Gordon will fix that so they all point to the "right" set. LATE NEWS: Fixed.
 - c. The Trust website has several(?) sets of pointers to properties/maps. The trails committee feels that the Trust website should just point to the Trails website properties and maps "table of contents", and not list all the individual properties. Bob and Gordon will figure out the details of how they think the Trust website should change, and work with Rich to make it happen.

6. Trails Work:
 - a. On May 31, Jeff, Larry, Gordon and Steve cleared a large down tree on the Kettle Hole trail. There are before and after pictures, but they haven't been posted on the website yet.
 - b. On May 31, Gordon, Larry and Steve cleared some of the new Haynes-Wheeler trail (on the north-eastern end of the Fyfeshire property).
 - c. The Welch Pond trail needs to be weed wacked.
7. The Kettle Hole trailhead sign needs to be refurbished. Bob Roemer volunteered to do it; Larry may bring it over to him.
8. At Houghton Farm, we now believe National Grid will not be willing to allow a trail across their property, so we need to plan an alternate route. It will require a bridge. Gordon will organize a walk to view the proposed new route.
9. The cleanup of the Garrison House foundation, which Gordon and Larry started last year, needs to be completed. We believe there's still a pile of brush which needs to be moved someplace. Jeff will follow up with Rebecca on the next steps.
10. Larry reported there are some dead pine trees in front of the Kettle Hole trail. He doesn't think they're an immediate danger of falling. Jeff will ask Rebecca if anything should be done about them now.

 Next Meeting Monday, July 8, 2019 - Houghton Building
