

Minutes of the August 5, 2019 Bolton Trails Steering Committee Meeting

Attendees:

Drew Schaubhut (chair), Steve Rothman (note taker), Gordon Taylor, Betsy Taylor-Kennedy, Larry Kunz, Hemali Parekh, Bob Roemer, Jeff Bryan.

1. We agreed that the agenda format for these meetings would be, in general:
 - a. Overall business
 - b. Accomplishments/Projects
 - c. Property Updates

2. Gordon reviewed the new maps project; most of the work is being done by Chris and Gordon– Steve is helping a little. Chris is working on the master map. A lot of the master map is done, but there are many little edits needed before it's finalized.
 - a. Gordon loaded two new maps to the website (PDF files), for folks to review: Zink-Northwoods, and Haynes-Wheeler. The old maps are still on the ConCom website.
 - b. Gordon has created a "private" page on the boltontrails.org website (no access from the home page or menus) which contains all the info for creating the new maps: <http://boltontrails.org/new-maps-2019>
 - c. One of the items on that page is a download link for the "Mapping Guidelines" document which Gordon created. It defines, in great detail, the processes for both creating the base map and the individual property PDF maps. He's distributed it for review to those people involved in the maps. It isn't finished; Gordon invites feedback.
 - d. Now that we have two new maps on the website, with the rest of the maps pointed to on the ConCom website, including the "current" versions of the two new maps, we need a process for how we're going to migrate from the old maps on the ConCom website to the new maps on the boltontrails.org website. We discussed a bunch of options– for example, should we release all the new maps at once, or should we be prepared to have a mix of old and new maps. We didn't reach a conclusion at the meeting. So, to help things along, here's my (Steve R) proposal, for discussion now, with hopefully a final process agreed to at the next meeting:
 - i. We will support a mix of old and new maps. There will very likely be occasions where we want to update information on the maps, before we're ready to release the complete set of new maps.
 - ii. Old maps will only be on the ConCom website (as they are now).
 - iii. New maps will only be on the boltontrails.org website.
 - iv. Before release, new maps will be set up for review on the boltontrails.org website with links on the "new-maps-2019" page. Steering Group members can review them there and send feedback to Gordon/Chris.
 - v. As new maps are released on boltontrails.org, the ConCom website will be edited so that when a user clicks on a property for which a new map has been released, the link will be changed to point to the boltontrails.org map PDF.

- vi. The links on the Bolton Conservation Trust website will all be changed to point to the boltontrails.org website. The goal is to change all those links once, so they don't need to be changed each time a new map is released (unlike the ConCom website, which will need to be changed with each new map release).
 - vii. And, in case it isn't obvious: the proposal is an attempt to implement Bob Roemer's "Single Source of Trust" rule. It is very, VERY important that we follow that rule.
 - e. Jeff B will let Rebecca/ConCom know that there are two new maps released.
3. No update on the new logos: the last info is that Chris was going to survey trails committee members on which they prefer. No one at the meeting was aware that Chris had actually done the survey.
4. Gordon noted that there is a need for more "Private Trail" signs on various properties; one is Gould-White. This fall/winter, Rebecca would like to install boundary markers on the conservation properties.
5. Several people tried the "Across Lexington" iPhone app, and agreed it would be nice to have a Bolton version. LATE NEWS: Steve contacted his friend, the developer of the app, who sent Steve the KML file for an early version (just because it's a smaller file). Steve asked Gordon and Chris if we already have the property definitions in the format needed for the KML file.
6. There was a very successful SVT trail walk at Rattlesnake on August 4, after a brief downpour.
7. At Vaughn Hills, there was a lot of confusion about the horse riding trail user who complained that a bridge is only 16 inches wide (too narrow for a horse), although we thought the bridge is actually 36 inches wide. Jeff B will talk to Rebecca. LATE NEWS: Everything is OK.
8. The new parking configuration at Bowers has been mapped out. Jeff B and Larry tested it– it seemed very tight. Larry also noted that the concrete railroad ties which have been offered are too big for wheel stops– they would damage fenders/bumpers in some cases. So the plan needs to be re-thought.
9. The plan is to do a "test strip" on the proposed solution to root problem on the trail around the lower pond at Bowers. Jeff and Rebecca will walk the area to figure out how to have the material delivered. And Rebecca has proposed that down trees be used for the edges.
10. Larry will call a "work party" (actually, several) to continue with Season 2 of the bittersweet eradication.

11. The Garrison house foundation clearing still needs to be finished. LATE NEWS: Drew almost finished it on August 9.
12. Jeff and Larry plan to do some tree clearing on August 6.
13. Gordon and Betsey reported that the Philips plaque is very loose. LATE NEWS: Bob and Alice Roemer repaired it.
14. There are some old trees down on the Philips trail– cleanup will require a chainsaw.
15. At Danforth, a bridge was swept from it's proper location by a significant flow of water. It needs to be put back, hopefully in a way which will keep it put.
16. A lot of trail cleaning is needed at Danforth– again, chainsaw work.
17. Rebecca and Gordon did some cleanup at Randall-Vinger using the brush hog and weed wacker.
18. There's a big tree down at Haynes-Wheeler.

Next Meeting Monday, September 9, 2019 - Houghton Building
