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## Minutes of the January 06, 2025 Bolton Trails Steering Committee Meeting

### *Attendees:*

*Andrew Schaubhut, Larry Kunz, Gordon Taylor, Betsy Taylor-Kennedy, Chris DeMers, Bob Roemer,  
Jonathan Balewicz  
Chairperson - Larry  
Note taker - Hemali*

Meeting maps: <https://www.boltontrails.org/Latest-Meeting-Map>

### **Trust Meeting Report - Drew**

- Trust has closed on a 20 acre parcel except the house lots that are not included. It has access to Old Harvard Road. There will be some future trail work.
- Metrophane Zayka after the family that owned the land and sold for a good price.
- It's a good size land. There is a plan to build couple of houses. Narrows Bridge will be now on Trust land so we would be able to move that trail instead of in present state.
- Drew noticed while scouting the area that there are some items like Camper cruise at one corner.
- It would be also good to put up a property sign. Bob typically makes them.
- Gordon still has the cutouts. Bob can help with signs once Drew tells him what is needed for the sign.
- Trail head will be at Old Harvard Road so sign should be placed there, facing parallel to the road.
- It is not yet finalized if this would have a CR with Town or SVT.
- Zoning board has approved various other plans for Hazel property
- This means that pending January 22 meeting, we would be able to purchase about 9 acres of property from Hazel family. We would have to move small section of trail to allow for their
- Capital Campaign is still in progress.
- Paperwork for NorthBrook Trail still needs to get to the Registry. Drew is waiting for signature.
- There might be couple of new Directors after the meeting but it has not finalized yet.
- Voting for Photo contest will take place soon.

### **Fyfeshire Bridge Repair - Bob;**

- Bob is trying to set up meeting with Boy Scout or Cub Scout to find out the projects planned and who will lead which project as they don't seem to commit after suggesting that they would work on a project.
- He is working with Bob Snider who is leader of Troop number 1.
- Fyfeshire bridge is a project that can be done by them if they agree to it.
- Gordon said that they have started to move material from Moen and there would be more as more material is moved.
- Bob is still concerned about lack of material in the container. He does not want to get the wood on ground at this time of year so he is working with Rebecca to get 4 by 4 locust and conduits to get to Rattlesnake Hill but still 2 x12s are missing which along

with other material that was shared with Rebecca in bill of materials but it seems like they were never orders. Bob will work with Rebecca.

### **BOC boxes:**

- We have gotten them all at this point. Ones at Powder House and at Zink Northwoods were not found. Zink Northwoods was in pieces when Chris went to retrieve it. Some parts were there but others were gone.

### **Mass Trails Bridges State Grant update - Rebecca and the Bridge team.**

- All the bridges are built but lot of material and junk is still lying around. Gordon, Larry and Chris retrieved some wood and part of culvert bridge from Moen. bridge part is placed at Town Hall. Some Pea stone is present. Right now many things are frozen.
- Drew said that we may want to keep some pea stone at site just in case we need to add more.
- Chris says that we should pick a good spot and consolidate the piles at site.
- They haven't gone to upper bridge where there are some 4 x6s which would need to be back in container. Long 4 x6 x 16 is too heavy and hard to carry.
- Chris says that if we have a group of 8 people, we can clear about in an hour or so.
- Annie Moore may require more volunteers to move this stuff. They will most likely meet on Saturday to do this.
- They might dismantle Gracie's bridge as it might be too heavy to retrieve it.

### **Derby Field, Horse Ring and Sawyer School to Berlin Rd Connector - Drew.**

See Appendix A in <https://www.boltontrails.org/Latest-Meeting-Map>

- No update yet but waiting to hear from Rebecca who would hear from the owners at 580 Main Street.

### **Volunteer Newsletter - Hemali**

- Volunteer list for Tails committee mailing list where some of us are not getting email.
- Gordon checked if it is his domain. It passes all the tests and checked with Dan Sani who owns Amaranth that provides service that is used by the Trust and [BoltonTrails.org](http://BoltonTrails.org).
- Gordon thinks it is the settings for [BoltonconservationTrust.org](http://BoltonconservationTrust.org). Gordon has a distribution list in her own account. If you can get in [info@bolotontrails.org](mailto:info@bolotontrails.org), you can use that.
- We will do a volunteer newsletter once we complete bridge project.

### **Bowers**

Invasives Sessions, etc. Jan Johnson email

- No new updates.

## **Hike**

- About 20 people joined New Year's Day hike. Nice walk in the woods even though it was drizzling. People enjoyed the hike.
- No new hikes are planned.

## **Wildflower walk document – Hemali**

- Hemali was absent for this meeting.

## **Storage**

- No updates.

## **Approved projects**

- Welch Pond Trail to Sawyer Road Gordon and Drew. No response from the two families that Drew contacted. Drew thinks that current path is very steep but that seems like the only path to go.
- Bridge repair at Rattlesnake (also noted on [Trailcare.com](http://Trailcare.com)). There are two bridges. One of them is the bog bridge and the Sawyer Grist Mill is the second bridge. We can start the work on these.
- Vinger-Venable Route clearance project might be easiest to do first now that there is a brush hog. Drew DPW and Rebecca walked and discussed what will they mow during the fall. It's only the part in the wood that we will need to clear. Gordon will take a lead on this.
  - Overall there is no change but we can focus on some of these now that the bridge is completed.

## **Derby Field**

- Drew talked with Rebecca about this. It is complicated due to Derby MVP grant for the Derby Field and since 580 Main Street is providing funding and material, they are focused on getting that gets completed instead of area next to Lacrosse field.

## **Trail color coding**

- There is a plan as per Rebecca. Rebecca has markers but not stickers yet.
- Her lawyer wanted to meet with whoever wants to do the work. They want to do a formal training so how we do this is standardized.
- Chris, Gordon and Drew will help with the project. Rebecca wants to know if someone wants to help. She wants to do this work during March.
- She would need help with the map and the Guide as well. Once infield marking is done then we can update maps.

## **Wilder**

- At large pond that feeds into the brook, someone keeps breaching the beaver dam and flooding the area there. Rebecca's concern is that water level gets very high when this happens so it might not be a good idea to put a bridge there.
- Drew and Rebecca will do a site visit to evaluate.

## **Century Mill Update**

- The Town got the land but the Trust has not gotten their land.
- Builder was asked to pay tax on land which they were going to donate so that project has not ended. Builder is not responding and says he has no money so project seems abandoned.

## **Sign Database**

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LUFOfmopVxOHxnb8QIkdiNJPjnd-nkSdTR8I0ifP\\_zk](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LUFOfmopVxOHxnb8QIkdiNJPjnd-nkSdTR8I0ifP_zk)

- No updates.

## **Trails Guide.**

- Gordon asked Ellie about guides. He is comfortable printing new guide books.
- We could do a pre-order if we need some to sell because we will run out during Backyard Bolton.

## **Area Review**

<https://www.trailcare.com/map>

- Houghton Farm - Trail sign has fallen. This is a project for spring. We can do something temporary using cinder blocks.
- Chris mentioned that the Fit trail behind the common also has a sign that is down. He will contact Parks and Rec.
- Tree down on the land that just was negotiated.
- Wilder - bridge is still there but the tree is gone.
- Taggart has a minor tree that needs chain saw.
- Again two chairs next to each other. This might be related to geo cache.
- Gould-White - two trees
- Vaughn Hill, Ballville Road, Bowers are all ok.
- Vinger-Vannable - Tree is down.
- Keyes Farm, Annie Moore and Danforth are clear.
- Rattlesnake has some trees through summer storm but people have found work around but one of them is sketchy that was reported last month.