
Minutes of the August 08, 2025 Bolton Trails Steering Committee Meeting

Attendees:

Andrew Schaubhut, Bob Roemer, Larry Kunz, Gordon Taylor, Betsy Taylor-Kennedy, Bob Roemer, , Chris DeMers,-Abbie Maguire

Chairperson - Drew

Note taker - Hemali

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

Trust meeting - Drew

- Vespa property CR is in progress.
- Hazel property is almost getting closed with signage and trail creation.
- They reached out to NE Power, but it will be slow.
- Wilder Pond bridge was discussed.

Hazel

- A little bit of arrows are done. Gordon has ordered to print waterproof maps that are for 5 locations from Clinton offset.
- We need to place the signs but, Bob is busy so, October would be the best time.
- Signs will be approved at Select board meeting.
- In past Gordon and Betsy were able to park but due to pile of material, parking is not possible. We would want to move it if we want to get a parking space. It is Trust land so, DPW might not be able to help. Someone named Mr. Goldie might be able to help. Keith is away otherwise he could help us.

Rattlesnake Bog Bridge - Bob

- Bog Bridge is done as Bob sent a picture to Gordon with Boy Scouts standing on the bridge.
- West Great Brook Bridge on the Horton Trail - Material is at Bob's house apart from telephone poles and another Boy Scout named Alex Dow who wants to do an Eagle Scout project.

Wilder

- Bridge Repair - Chris, Larry, Keith; Drew has been working on this with ConCom.
 - Drew shared that we have DEP file number and waiting for order to be submitted. Bob Hatch will start to order material. We would need volunteers for this bridge.
 - There is no plan on how to move/remove old bridge. Drew mentioned that we could use tractor to haul it to the road or bring it to another spot. DPW can't put into any

bins. Other option is to break it and leave it in place like Annie Moore. Rebecca had to pay to move it.

- Pile can't be left there as it is by the high way and a safety hazard.

Scouts' projects - Bob

Bob has been coordinating with the leadership.

- Fyfeshire Bridge Repair
- Peach Hill Bridge Repair
- Ballville Trash Removal
- Vaughn Hills Pond submerged boardwalk removal

Annie Moore Kiosk

- Kevin Wheeler is another Eagle Scout candidate who is working with Lauren on a project to install another kiosk at Annie Moore. He is being encouraged to install it at the Annie Moore Road trailhead because his original proposal was at the 117 end of the trail that drops down to Old Bolton Road which technically, although well used and well defined and even signposted, is not an authorized path.
- Greg's son will provide consulting for the project.

Volunteer newsletter - Hemali

- Newsletter needs to be sent.

Bowers-Larry

Invasive Sessions

- Larry has been on vacation. He is planning to restart Bowers invasive work using brush hog.
- Larry finds it hard to get the key for brush hog when he has time if Town Hall is closed. You have to plan in advance. Gordon asked to talk with Lauren or Marie who is the Town administrator.
- There was a report to Lauren about a large wasp nest at Bowers; has anybody seen it? After speaking with DPW I've learned that this is an underground nest of Cicada Killer Wasps along the edge of the parking area (photo attached). They are typically non-aggressive unless agitated. DPW tried treating the area but were unsuccessful, and the highway staff has cordoned off the area for the time being. This is a discussion item that has been added to the 8/5/25 ConCom agenda to see how the Commission would like to proceed with dealing with them.

Hikes

- Hemali is planning a hike in August for AMC. She will share that once it is posted. Tentative date is given for August. Two miles is about good distance for hikes.
- Chris mentioned about path with bailout plan so, some people can leave early.

Wildflower walk document – Hemali

- Should the Trust publish a hard copy (suggestion from Bob)? Maps on plastic for use at the Trailhead have been ordered by Hemali.

- The plastic maps are gone. Gordon has ordered waterproof maps on material that is used for menu and it is easy to wipe and clean and reuse. It is 11 by 17 and are foldable.
- There are currently 3 at Rattlesnake assuming no one has stolen yet. These are not cheap. They are about \$4 each.

Approved projects

- Rattlesnake/Skinner Land Bridge Repair on Sawyer Grist Mill path
 - We have discussed about this. Drew would work on it when he has time. It is simple project. It has been also offered to an Eagle Scout.
- Welch Pond Trail to Sawyer Road Gordon and Drew. Needs maps and signs, Gordon has started marking the limits of the available land.
 - This was offered to another Eagle Scout who is interested to do a project. Gordon and Betsy went with him and walked to the point where the trail connects to the Pond Trail. They have put a lot of tapes based on GPX. He likes this project. Ken is interested in this project as well especially when we put a sign calling private property where his property starts.
- Vinger Venable Route clearance - Gordon

Vinger Venable Route modification

This project needs ConCom approval. Gordon to assemble a map and reasoning; no progress.

- There is no update on this project.
- If you go from Berlin Road, there is a drive way, trail comes too close to the house. Suggestion is to go a bit more along the road but since there is wet land area, it requires approval. Route is not approved yet.

Storage

- Organize and inventory. No updates yet but, we need to set up meeting with Rebecca/Lauren and get key to reorganize the storage.

Vaughn

- Unauthorized mountain bike jumps.
 - Note from Lauren: On 6/3/25, ConCom voted to authorize the posting of the proposed signs that were presented during the meeting in the Vaughn Hill Conservation Area in locations determined as necessary by the Conservation Agent/Land Use Admin Assistant. Both authorized signs are attached and may be posted in specific locations. Please feel free to contact me regarding sign posting locations.
 - It was mentioned that the signs need to get spelling errors fixed.
- Trail re-routing near the Moen entrance; do we need to do anything? - Rebecca. Probably not much has happened
 - When you go to Moen and go towards the left at the end, you might see wet area in spring. Rebecca had said that we will reroute that but nothing else has happened after that.
 - Chris said that people have started to use another path to avoid the muddy path.

Sign Database

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LUFOfmopVxOHxnb8QIkdiNJPjnd-nkSdTR8I0ifP_zk

Area Review

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

- Rattlesnake - There are couple of them that requires chain saw. One of them is near Bob Horton Trail.
- Zink, Bowers, Taggart and Powder House look good.
- Vaughn Hill has three trees. Some of them were reported from April and June. Chris would try to get the ones that were flagged by them. Gordon would help.
- Moen - That one is very small but, it is longer than it looks so, Gordon reported it.
- Oaks trail has one that is good size and is near Ballville Road.
- Rocky Dundee has a couple of trees. There is also one near Randall Road which is also big. It requires longer hike.
- Barrette's hill and Keyes Farm looks good.

Backyard Bolton

- September 13 - Abbie can help. Chris and Larry are a definite may be. Drew is out on vacation on September 12.
- Drew has left items , etc., in Trust office in past. Tent is the only one that he will need to leave.

Other topics

- High school trails were discussed. There were trails but no one knows if they are public or not. Betsy has not seen it on a map.

Deferred

- Trails Guide print run — only 3 copies left in stock. Target is a 2026 edition available in the autumn. Continue with the delay until color coding completed. Also, see how Zink Northwoods, Welch Pond, Derby Field and Wilder changes work out. Names of interested customers were collected at BYB
- Wilder - Common driveway path clearance.
- Century Mill Update - This would be a spring 2026 project. Margaret Campbell has some knowledge about historical trails in this area and might be available to show us the route(s). Trails planned. Volunteers and BTC will be needed for clearance of the pathway once flagged.

Derby Field: Working draft map:

<https://boltontrails.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/19-Derby-Field-working-draft-5.pdf>

- Waiting for Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Action Grant Project - Future Resilient Field at Derby; announcement anticipated June 2025. Was there one?
- Clarification needed from the people at 580 Main Street; is there anything new? Currently we are waiting for a response from Alta Nashoba.
- Trail destination signs will be needed.