
Minutes of the October 06, 2025 Bolton Trails Steering Committee Meeting

Attendees:

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

Chairperson - Larry

Note taker - Hemali

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

Trust meeting - Drew

- No new updates this month.
- A few new lands like Stevensons land, Davis land and old Virginia Camp horse Farm are on sale but Trust does not have money to buy or negotiate with them.
- One half of Stevenson's land is already lost to developers. They will sub divide the lot.
- SVT will join the meeting on Wednesday for outreach Taylor-Kennedy is on the list.
- They have not heard back from Warren Hills land.

Backyard Bolton

- Next Backyard Bolton is on 10/18.
- Keith and Gordon will be able to help for Backyard Bolton in the morning. Abbie will be able to help during the second and half. Betsy might be able to help. Larry might be able to help with set up.
- During September Backyard Bolton, Gordon, Larry and Chris volunteered during the morning. Hemali and Abbie volunteered during the afternoon.
- A Girl Scouts leader said that her troop would like to help with some projects. There were 15-20 people that stopped by during the morning. Much fewer people during the afternoon.
- There will be a book sale during next Backyard Bolton event.

Bosselait Junction at Zink Northwoods - Drew

- Gordon made a sign and map proposal; Drew getting approval from Matt Bosselait then Gordon will make the signs and map. Chris, Gordon and Drew has worked on the trail to re-route and put signage.

Rattlesnake Bog Bridge - Bob

- West Great Brook bridge is on the Horton Trail. Max Roemer was re-nailing some loose planks that had lifted when Cub Scouts walked along the edge; he realized the tops of the telephone poles were completely rotten. Lauren is looking into purchase

of new stringers. The rest of the material has been delivered to Bob's home. It has been offered to Alex Dow for an Eagle Scout project.

- Chris Slede won't be able to help due to sickness.
- Boy Scout Alex Dow has not responded.
- Trail team will do the work for this bridge once rest of the material arrives.

Wilder Bridge Repair

- Bridge Repair - Chris, Larry, and Keith are working with ConCom. Bob Hatch is busy. Drew is waiting to hear back.
- Sign is ready to be placed.
- The second bridge which is longer than this bridge will be worked on after this bridge is completed. It is longer by 4 feet and needs about 20 feet of board walk.

Scouts' projects - Bob

Bob has been coordinating with the leadership. We discussed that we should contact the Girl Scouts leader who has shown interest.

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

Annie Moore Kiosk

- Kevin Wheeler, another Eagle Scout candidate 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.

Volunteer newsletter - Hemali

- Hemali said that she received feedback from everyone that she sent a preview newsletter.
- Newsletter has been sent and has been well received. 68% open rate and 5% click rates are considered very good.

Bowers-Larry

Invasive Sessions

- No new Invasive removal sessions were taken place this month.
- Jim Henderson cleared a large area including areas between the trees and meadow.
- There is a section that he does not take care since parts of that area are either too wet or too rocky.
- Larry did some work near lower pond. He says that he will do one more round.
- We should also plan for a bittersweet removal work party.

Hikes

- No one joined for the hike that Hemali offered on September 14 at Rattlesnake. We discussed that we need to do more announcements next time
- There will be a Black Friday hike offered by Drew. Tentative plan is Moen.
- New Year's Day Hike - Tentative plan is to offer at Taggart property.

Welch Pond Trail to Sawyer Road Gordon and Drew

- This project is approved by ConCom some time ago. There was no response from John Mortimer on the Eagle Scout project, so Gordon brought up that perhaps we should consider getting started on this.
- The route is now tagged by Gordon and approved by Ken Nicewicz. Mostly, this needs brush and sapling clearance, plus some trail leveling with a mattock. Updated trailhead maps and a post will be required. Ken Nicewicz is pleased at the possibility of this being done. It would be good to have this done in time for the upcoming Trail Guide update.
- We need 2-3 volunteers. Chris, Gordon and Larry are planning to get started on this project. Drew will help if the time permits.

Approved projects

- Rattlesnake/Skinner Land Bridge Repair on Sawyer Grist Mill path
- Vinger Venable Route clearance - Gordon - No new updates.

Vinger Venable Route modification

- No updates. It needs ConCom approval. Gordon to assemble a map and reasoning; no progress.
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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

- Amount of peas tones have been reduced near the beaver pond.
- Grace's Bridge is moved.

Derby Field

A historical trail system that was in earlier trail guides. Working draft map: <https://boltontrails.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/19-Derby-Field-working-draft-5.pdf>

- Project is waiting for Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Action Grant Project - Future Resilient Field at Derby; announcement grant anticipated June 2025. Grant was not awarded; next round of applications is in the New Year. Does this prevent us from completing the trails?
- Clarification needed from the people at 580 Main Street. Currently we are waiting for a response from Alta Nashoba.

- If Alta Nashoba allows an easement then we can have a connector to the Bolton Bean.
- Trail destination signs will be needed.

Sign Database

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

- There was an update made about Zaika property. All the signs have been added for Hazel property as well.

Area Review

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

- Houghton Farm, Zink Northwoods, and most other properties look good.
- Bowers property - Gordon had noted a tree down. Chris say that he will take care .
- Peach Hill - we don't volunteer there but there is a tree down.
- Gould-White - a tree is down.
- Drew went to the Rainforest. It is passable.

Deferred

- Wilder - Common driveway path clearance is probably not yet done. Also a Wilder Road Map installation needs coordination with other groups.
- Century Mill Update - This will be most likely 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.