
Minutes of the January 01, 2026 Bolton Trails Steering Committee Meeting

Attendees:

Andrew Schaubhut, Bob Roemer, Larry Kunz, Gordon Taylor, Betsy Taylor-Kennedy, Chris DeMers, Keith Silver, Steve Rothman, Sarah Ernest-Edwards

Chairperson - Larry

Note taker - Hemali

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

Trust meeting - Drew

- The Zayka and Hazel property CRs are approved by the ConCom and the Town.
- Vattes family has signed an agreement.

Bosselait Junction at Zink Northwoods - Drew

- Signs are almost ready to be installed
- It was discussed to go on site, take a picture with the sign and send to Bosselait for confirmation.
- Three signs were created with “No Shot animals”.
- Rebecca asked to send her with formatting once signs are ready to be printed.

Rattlesnake Bog Bridge - Bob

- No updates.
- It does not seem like Boy Scouts will work on this project. Bob will check when he meets with Matt Bosselait.
- Some of the tasks like cutting the deck, cutting and dragging material besides the site and cutting fallen trees that are lying in front of the bridge can be done for now.

Moen Trail relocation - Keith and Chris

- Rebecca will propose alternate path.

Wilder Bridge Repair

- Bob Hatch and Drew scoped out the 20 feet spring bridge. Now we are waiting for spring.

Scouts' projects - Bob

No updates. No one has replied from the Girl Scouts.

- Fyeshire 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 and Rebecca on this project to install another kiosk at Annie Moore. Kiosk will be placed off of Annie Moore Road TH replacing the post/sign that is currently in place a few feet into the property.

Volunteer newsletter - Hemali

- Hemali to create a newsletter and send for review before mailing it. We would highlight Guidebook 2026 edition, new Derby Field map, Black Friday and New Year's Day hikes as well as Winter Photo contest.

Bowers-Larry

- Rebecca mentioned that Bower Springs Annual Maintenance of the beach area will take place through contracted parties and the Town of Bolton Conservation Staff.
- Rebecca is happy with the work being done for invasive plant removal project.
- No updates about the sink holes.
- Rebecca will work with DPW to get brush hog stored. We need to clear container so Deere can be stored there.

Smith/Hazel connection to Northwoods

- Sign is ready to be installed. It will be installed in spring.
- Clearing a parking space is being discussed. Rebecca supports this as long as it is not close to resource area.

Hikes.

- New Year's Hike at Taggart was very successful. Keith, Gordon, Betsy, Sarah, Chris and his wife joined. There were about 20 people. It was pretty cold but, that did not deter the hikers. Sarah has taken pictures that she will share for newsletter.
- Five Guidebooks were sold during the hike.

Welch Pond Trail to Sawyer Road - Gordon, Drew

- John Mortimer, the scout who is going to work on the Eagle Scout project.
- He has asked about any material from the container that he could use.
- He is also planning to make a formal kiosk.
- Lauren and Rebecca are working with him as land is owned by the town.

Approved projects

- Rattlesnake/Skinner Land Bridge Repair on Sawyer Grist Mill path - Drew has taken lumber out of container to get started on this as none of the scouts have agreed to work on this. Drew is planning to reach out to DeckIt company to see if they have extra trex type material to use for this project.
- Vinger Venable Route clearance - Gordon - No updates.

Vinger Venable Route modification

- No updates. It needs ConCom approval. Gordon sent details to Drew. Next step is to put a proposal and getting it on ConCom's agenda.

Storage

- Organize and inventory. No updates yet.
- Rebecca wants to schedule an audit with her and take an inventory. Chris mentioned that we take everything out and have her review it. She is available on Monday or Tuesday.
- Plan is to set up a date with Rebecca and 3-4 volunteers will meet up.

Derby Field

A historical trail system that was in earlier trail guides. Working draft map:<https://boltontrails.org/map19>

- We will release the Map is on website.
- Signs are needed at Derby Field. A sign is needed at the entrance, Rebecca wants written agreements from property owners like Bolton Bean. Town Field and Cell Tower are owned by Town.

Acreages in all documents

Gordon brought up that the acreages in all documents are different! The Bolton welcome letter is different to the website; is different to the Guide; is different to the All Trails Club. Gordon has been trying to reconcile them all using uMap area estimates. However, we need to come up with a definition that works for the whole town. He asked if he should we include following?

.uMap estimator is reasonably close to the accepted numbers for several maps, but it could not get close to the accepted number for Rattlesnake

- It worked with some properties like Powder Mills and Bowers but, not with others like Rattlesnake property.
- Rebecca has responded in the bullets below.
 - Conservation Trust land — goes without saying
 - Town land under ConCom's jurisdiction — ditto
 - Private land with a Conservation restriction e.g. Bartsch, Held, Shultz/International - probably
 - APR land crossed by a trail (e.g. Schartner, Nicewicz) — maybe/maybe not

- Chapter 61B land crossed by a trail (e.g. Vespa, Taylor-Kennedy) — maybe
- Private land where there is an trail license, but no special status (Bosselait might be like this) — maybe/maybe not
- Church land — probably
- Town land crossed by a trail (e.g. Town Common) — probably
- Recreation land (soccer fields, lacrosse field) — maybe not
- School Land crossed by a Trail (e.g. at Derby Field) — probably not
- Cemeteries crossed by a trail (e.g. Eastwood at Taggart) — probably not
- Land in Berlin, Harvard, Stowe, Lancaster, Boxborough (e.g. Vaughn, Bowers, Northwoods, Delaney, Bolton Flats, Fyfeshire, Annie Moore - lots of them) — maybe not
- Peripheral areas (e.g., is Butternut to be considered part of Rattlesnake)?
- SVT and Trustees land (e.g. Wilder, Rattlesnake) — probably
- There may be more possibilities!
- Rebecca will work directly with Gordon for this.
- Drew says that we should leverage any acreage we can. For a guidebook, we should add smaller parcel acreages.
- Chapter 61 can be revoked so, Rebecca says that we cannot include it.

Sign Database

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

- Zayka sign is added.

Area Review

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

- Bower Springs bridge - Site visit is done. Larry and Drew have a plan to fix that bridge.
- Vaughn Hill:
 - Sign is still there. They hunt during the season. It's his land so, there is no need to share this with public.
- Welch Pond, Houghton Farm, Zink Northwoods, Taggart, Vinger-Vannable, Danforth, Fyfeshire, Keyes Farm, Derby Field, Rattlesnake, Annie Moore and Powder House I look good.
- Ballville has a tree down. Rattlesnake might have a tree but no reports.
- Gould-White has a post that needs to be replaced.
- Peach Hill Road has a tree down. We don't manage that area.

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.