
Minutes of the July 7, 2026 Bolton Trails Steering Committee Meeting

Attendees:

Andrew Schaubhut, Larry Kunz, Gordon Taylor, Betsy Taylor-Kennedy, Chris DeMers, Steve Rothman

Chairperson - Larry

Note taker - Hemali

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

Trust meeting - Drew

- Trust focused on preparation for Trust annual meeting which highlighted Tom Denny Nature Camp.
- Drew might need help for marking project at Bowers. Details later in meeting.

Meetings and administrative stuff

- We would set up meetings for first Tuesdays that follow Trails Steering Committee meetings. September is the only exception where meeting moves to second Monday.
- There was a zoom meeting last time on Thursday. Gordon would suggest that as an option for Thursday for this month. Larry, Gordon, Drew if he can, Chris, Keith and Steve. Hemali can't meet in the morning.

Community Event

- Backyard Bolton - Dates for October are not yet released.

Rattlesnake Bog Bridge - Bob

- Rebecca shared that additional material is ordered. It would be delivered at TH1 adjacent to Bob's fence.

Moen Trail relocation - Keith and Chris

- All approved work is ready to go.
- Conservation agent (Rebecca) would file RDA work to be reviewed. RDA means Restful determination of applicability which is easier than NOI.

Scouts' projects - Bob

No new updates.

- Fyfreshire Bridge Repair
- Peach Hill Bridge Repair
- Ballville Trash Removal
- Vaughn Hills Pond submerged boardwalk removal
- Rebecca has shared opportunities and details with Scouts. She is waiting for response.

Annie Moore Kiosk

- Kevin Wheeler, an Eagle Scout candidate is working with Lauren and Rebecca on a project to install another kiosk at Annie Moore. No updates.

Volunteer newsletter - Hemali

- Newsletter had about 50% open rate. Larry and Steve liked the newsletter. Links were easy to follow.
- Constant Contact shares reports with opens, clicks and suggestions, etc. Open rate is considered pretty good compared to typical open rate. A lot of readers are only reading email but don't open links even though we send using a securing email marketing application.
- We do not get feedback via emails but, statistics from Constant Contact are helpful.
- Larry suggests to have video of work as additional interesting read.
- Doing a survey to gather ideas of what people would like to see.

Bowers-Larry

- * Bog Bridge in Bowers has permissions. We need to schedule and do the work.
- * Gordon mentioned that there was plenty of water. We need area to be dry to work on this project.
- * Larry worked on invasive plants using brush hog. In about 2 hours, he was able to clear entire alley and areas between trees, part of upper trail and area below lower pond and worked on area that we have permissions to work on.
- * Someone asked to clear poison ivy around bench. Bench was surrounded by it so, Larry has cleared most of it.
- * Sarah had asked if she could weed whack "Held Land". Gordon said that we are not allowed to clear that area any more. Drew had cleared it recently. This path connects to Vaughn Hill from Bowers.
- * Bowers Trail markers - Loop Trail that goes to Harvard that is part of trail that is used by Tom Denny Nature camp. Ellie wants to put markers. Drew has talked with Eli to gather information. Based on what we want to do, we would contact Harvard.
- * Harvard asked Bolton when they wanted to put temporary markers so, they might expect us to contact them.
- * If we want permanent markers that says Junior Trail vs Senior Trail, it would take a while. We need to know what Ellie wants and then ask Harvard what is needed.

Hikes.

- Next planned hike is on October 29, 2026, at Rattlesnake Conservation Area.

Welch Pond Trail to Sawyer Road - Gordon, Drew

- John Mortimer is planning to do as Eagle Scout project. He is working on signs. Gordon has suggested what to make for signs. Gordon has also asked him to get feedback from Rebecca. He will get more work done in August.

Approved projects

- Rattlesnake/Skinner Land Bridge Repair on Sawyer Grist Mill path — Material for beams are identified. Decking needs to be identified. There is a pile of decking in the container without any name. It's trex but, since bridge would be wider, that decking might not be useful.
- Vinger Venable Route clearance - Drew/Gordon — No updates but, we can clear the existing route but, Gordon heard that someone has done it this year.

Vinger Venable Route modification

- Moving the route - Drew was going to make a presentation to ConCom which is what this is about. A new visit to check the route would be appropriate but, this project needs to be prioritized in order to move it forward.

Derby Field

- Chris, Keith and Gordon put some posts in and placed two signed in. We can put one across from Lacrosse Field, clarified where she wants the sign "Do Not Enter" due to water facility by Bolton Bean.
- Bolton Bean also placed a dumpster there. Randy Peterson said to talk with his father. Randy is aware of situation. Rebecca does not want to move the trail.

Acreages in all documents

- No updates.

Sign Database

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LUFOfmopVxOHxnb8QlkdiNJPjnd-nkSdTR8I0ifP_zk.

•

Area Review

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

- Houghton Farm, Bowers, Taggart, Danforth, Annie Moore, Keyes Farm, Taggart, North Brook Trail, Fyfeshire Welch Pond, Gould-White and Vinger-Vannable, Wheeler are all doing ok.
- There is a report on Bosselait land. Rebecca should notify the owners as they preferred to clear it themselves.
- Vaughn Hill
 - A sign at Vaughn Hills was reported by Chris. Sign seems to be missing there but, its not our sign. This is an old post without sign.
 - There is a widow maker which we won't be clearing as its a long and big tree.
- Philbin-Salmon Trail has a tree down that blocks part of trail but, path is walkable. There is also a tree that is leaning against another tree across the path but, it's too high for us to clear.
- Powder House has a tree down. Its a climb with chain saw but it can wait.

Deferred

- Wilder - Common driveway requires path clearance
 - Nothing is done. Maybe we need to schedule something. Also a Wilder Road Map installation; needs coordination with other groups.
- Century Mill Update - Likely a spring 2026 project at the earliest. Margaret Campbell gave some feedback at BYB.
- Color-coded trails. This was a good project. How about doing it on other areas like Gould-White, Vaughn Hills? Note: Feedback on the blue markers is that they are often hard to see, especially when the sun is behind them. Perhaps another color should be considered.

Any other Business