



# ***NATURE TRAILS COMMITTEE***

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday September 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM**

### **Board Members in Attendance**

**Bruce DeVault** (Chairman), **Cameron Graves** (Vice Chairman), **Raymond Keddy** (Member),  
**Michele Piselli** (Member), **Raymond Kelley** (Clerk & Alternate)

### **Board Members Absent**

**Jean Graves** (Member)

### **Meeting Subjects:**

1. Call meeting to order
2. Discuss 6th grade Girl Scouts involvement
3. Discuss request for funding for trail mapping app and supplies
4. Review Stowe Meadows Conservation Area condition and plan
5. Review plan to concentrate on Rail Trail next
6. Approve Minutes from August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 and previous meetings
7. Round table discussion
8. Adjournment

#### **1. Call to Order:**

**Bruce DeVault** called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

#### **2. Discuss 6th grade Girl Scouts involvement**

Local Girl Scout troop asked for help in getting the trail blazing badge, but no one attended the meeting for this purpose.

#### **3. Discuss request for funding for trail mapping app and supplies**

**Bruce DeVault** got an estimate of \$100 for a printing of shirts which would have the committee name and a logo. These shirts would be given to volunteers and committee members. They would be used for clearly indicating people involved in the work when on-site and to generate visibility in general for the work being done by the committee and volunteers. The t-shirt design was discussed, but not decided.

**Raymond Kelley** made a motion to discuss the t-shirt design over email before the next regular meeting. **Michele Piselli** seconded the motion. **Bruce DeVault** took a vote, which was unanimous 4-0.

The donations and spending so far was reviewed. The current balance after spending was \$415.46.

**Bruce DeVault** listed the planned kiosks at Stowe Conservation Area as future costs that would need additional funding to be installed. These kiosks would be located at the entrances for Carleton Rd, Stowe Rd, and Auburn Rd, and also one at the main intersection near Carleton Rd. **Michele Piselli** said she would look into the possibility of having these kiosks made as part of Eagle Scout Project for one of the local Boy Scouts.

#### **4. Review Stowe Meadows Conservation Area condition and plan**

Auburn Road entrance to Stowe Meadows Conservation Area has been improved and is now passable. The "Connector Trail", which goes from Carleton Rd to Stowe Rd, was decided to be kept yellow and signs should be added to be make it more clear which way the trails are headed.

2021 NOV -4 AM 8:35  
MILLBURY, MASS.

**Bruce DeVault** discussed details of the trail blazing system that's being using, which is based on the Appalachian Trail system. The area between the dam and the main intersection should have some sort of warning sign because it's very hard to pass through. The Stowe Rd entrance couldn't be found so a new entrance will be made, away from the wetland area. The Tree Warden will be assisting with clearing some trees. Good parking is another issue, so Conor McCormack and the DPW will be contacted to create some areas where a few cars can park at the Carleton Rd entrance.

**Bruce DeVault** discussed the safety concerns of doing trail work during hunting season, even though the conservation lands are off-limits to hunters.

Auburn Rd entrance has lots of brush that needs to be removed to allow for better access. **Bruce DeVault** discussed the Red trail that leads from pipeline area to Auburn Rd.

#### **5. Review plan to concentrate on Rail Trail next**

The committee's regular volunteers are ready to work on another major trail area after Stowe, so Rail Trail was decided as next project. Rail Trail runs from near C&S Lumber out to Wyman-Gordon area in Grafton, and is currently state-owned, but can be improved by committee maintenance. Condition of trail should be reviewed on-site to decide details of plan for improvement.

**Michele Piselli** planned to travel the Rail Trail and report back on the conditions.

#### **6. Approve Minutes from August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 and previous meetings**

Minutes weren't available to be approved, so approvals were pushed back to the next meeting in October.

#### **7. Round table discussion**

**Bruce DeVault** said the Facebook page for the committee has about 115 people. **Bruce DeVault** has been using the GAIA GPS app for mapping the trails and for updating those maps on the computer.

#### **8. Adjournment**

**Michele Piselli** made a motion to adjourn, **Raymond Kelley** seconded the motion. **Bruce DeVault** took a vote it was unanimous 4-0.



## ***NATURE TRAILS COMMITTEE***

**Signature of Attendees and Approval for Minutes from  
Tuesday, September 7, 2021**

**Bruce DeVault – Chairman:** Bruce DeVault

**Cameron Graves – Vice Chairman:** Cameron Graves

**Raymond Kelley – Clerk:** Raymond D. Kelley

**Jean Graves – Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Raymond Keddy – Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Michele Piselli – Member:** Michele M Piselli

**Comments:**

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