

Friends of North Andover Trails

Meeting Minutes – 15 August 2018

6.10 PM – 7.15 PM

Attendance: 8 people participating

Membership: No new members; no renewals. 138 people on membership list; 57 have paid in the last year. Options to increase and revitalize membership were discussed: Glen to re-start emails for membership renewals; more publicity for the walks (“sandwich board” at town outreach programs, in front of Brick Bldg, CAM, town website); better use of Facebook (more photos on events); different times/days for the walks, especially in the summer.

Treasury Report: Steve reported a healthy bank balance: almost \$18,000 cash on-hand. Not many expenses. Most revenue is coming from Trail Guide sales. Discussion on purchasing more t-shirts, caps and/or car decals. Also, new purchase of maps for kiosks and information stands.

Guidebooks: Sales continue. Stan sold 10 to a local real estate office, to include in “welcome baskets” to home buyers. He expects to expand this market area. Smolak Farm is another new target. Rocky’s continues to be best outlet. Options for a 2nd edition were discussed (different color front cover, 2nd edition tag-line); 1st edition is missing many new trails.

Reports from the Trails:

- **Trail Reports:** Blazing issues on Osgood Hill were reported. Downed trees on BCT behind CYR recycling center (Farnum boardwalk to Rte 114).
- **Work Days:** Mazurenko work day had only 2 people (Glen and Tom) participating; limited work completed. Some discussions on the shared mower condition by BTA and now FONAT; whether Trustees are using it since it appears they are not maintaining it, per past practices. Suggestions to move the mower to other locations (DEP, BTA – new shed) were dismissed. Definitely need to discuss issues with Trustees. Concerns about the muddy status of “Scouts Trail” needing some bridging.
- **Lumber:** Trex decking donation received; now at Glen’s house. In reasonably good shape. Insufficient to build a new boardwalk behind Cyr recycling center; sufficient for a small boardwalk behind Edgewood. A lot of stock piled lumber for BCT/BSF boardwalk at both Glen’s and Mike’s houses.
- **Other:** DPW building a new kiosk for Rea’s Pond. FONAT to provide maps, photos, etc. Goal to have kiosk at every trailhead.

Meeting Minutes – 15 August 2018 (continued)

Other Events Recap:

- **Woodchuck Trail Hike:** Fairly well attended (~ 20 people). See discussion on membership. New boardwalk still in good shape.

Updates on Ongoing Projects (no discussion):

- Scheduled workday to install toe edging on Farnum boardwalk cancelled.
- No progress on the trail sign project or on the Cyr “information stands” project.
- No progress on the Lake Trail project (CPA funds) or the BCT/BSF (Fields Pond grant).

Upcoming Events (Quick Review Only):

- **August 19th:** Double booking on this date. Liz/Glen will take the walk at 1 – 3 PM. Sufficient manpower to cover the Artisian Market at West Mill from 8:15 AM set-up to 4:15 takedown.
- **September 8th:** Workday on the Shawsheen Trail scheduled.
- **September 15th:** New date for working on Farnum boardwalk. Carry-in of lumber to precede this work date.
- **September 22nd:** Fall festival on the Commons, plus the Essex Sails/Trails walk on “Stevens to Stevens” trail.
- **September 30th:** Holt Hill walk from Brightview (the 2nd Essex Sails/Trails walk). Need to notify Brightview staff.
- **October 13th:** New date to work on the Lake Trail project.
- **October 21:** October walk moved to this new date to coincide with Trustees celebration of the 50th anniversary of preserving Weir Hill. Opening of a new parking area (parking fees?)

Next Meeting: 19 September 2018 at 1 Johnson Street