

## **Minutes--Friends of North Andover Trails Meeting, 6/20/18**

**Present:** Glen, Liz, Mike, Deb, Steve, Jim Petty, Jim Murphy, Brian, David Brush

**Membership:** Glen reported one renewal.

**Treasurer's Report:** Steve reported that there is \$17,475 in the treasury. Trail Guides have brought in \$19,717 since 2015. One suggestion for spending some of the money-- on safety training for trail work, on use of chain saws, etc.

**North Andover Village Improvement Society:** Glen proposed proceeding with making FONAT a 501C3 organization. Steve and Glen will work on the forms. The process can take a while. Liz said she thought it was important to keep by-laws simple.

**Trail Guides:** Glen said Stan has already sold 200 of the 1000 newly printed guides. Edgewood bought 20 copies to give out to new residents. He also led a short walk when he brought the guides. There is a new woodshop at Edgewood and there was a discussion about whether anyone there would be interested in making signs.

### **Trail Work:**

**Cyr Work Day** – Mike said there were three chainsaws going all the way to Sharpners Pond, Volunteers encountered a lot of blow downs.

**Leonhard Farm:** A mother reported in an email that she and her children had gone to Bruin Hill Road at Leonard Farm, where they did some clearing of the trails. She found the trail well marked.

**Foxwood trail** needs a chain saw to clear it

**Bruin Hill:** No one has monitored this trail in a while. Liz said she would walk it soon.

**Osgood Hill:** someone emailed a photograph showing a big tree blocking the trail.

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### **Events:**

**June 17 Hike at Salem Pond**, Liz and Brian. It was a smaller turn-out than usual, 16 people. Liz wondered if it was because it was Father's Day. If the Harold Parker Scramble continues to be held on the second Sunday in June, she suggested moving the hike to the first Sunday

**Sheep Shearing**, Sunday, May 20– Table was understaffed: Glen, Brian, and Keith. In the future it was suggested that an email reminder asking for volunteers be sent as the date approaches.

**Atkinson School Field Trip** – Nature Walk for third graders at Stevens Estate/Osgood Hill. June 15. Glen said this outing was very successful and proposes that FONAT lead this walk/field trip every year for all the North Andover third graders. Walk leaders included Glen, Brian, Christina Minicucci, and two Conservation Commission members. Deb wondered if Edgewood residents might also want to participate.

### **Upcoming Projects:**

**Eagle Scout projects** Anthony Passariello built a new boardwalk and sign post on the Foxwood Trail that Phil constructed last year. Luke Babb built a new bog bridge on the Osgood Hill trail.

**Field Pond Grant** – Liz said she will fill out paperwork, when people are ready to work on this project.

**Cyr Recycling Center Boardwalk:** This will go along the stone wall (now difficult to walk on) and it will be long, 200-250 feet.

**Instructional Poster:** Deb created an impressive poster documenting the steps in building a boardwalk, using the photographs she took last summer, during the Farnham boardwalk project. We agreed that the poster could be very helpful for promotion and discussed how it might be used. Glen will create a template online. Deb is also planning to create a poster about beavers, an idea which was part of the original Farnham boardwalk grant proposal. Liz wondered if people want to continue with both posters, because it would mean spending more money. People seemed in favor of going ahead.

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Deb wondered if FONAT should create a bumper sticker as a giveaway. She also asked if FONAT had a motto or a slogan.

**Lake Trail Boardwalk Project** at Edgewood work will be done in September. There are six different sections and it will be built plank-style.

**Toe Edge at Farnham Boardwalk.** This is the final phase of the boardwalk constructed last summer by student volunteers. Construction will require two sets of board 220 feet each. Three to five volunteers will be needed. Mike will talk to Steve and set a work date.

**Signs:** No update.

**Donated deck material:** A man who has taken apart a deck at his house has offered the planks to FONAT. People seemed receptive to the idea of accepting the planks. Glen said he will store the material.

**Upcoming Events:**

**7/8:** Woodchuck Hill Hike, led by Glen

**7/14:** Work day at Mazurenko Farm (date changed due to July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday)

**Next Meeting:** July 18, 6PM, 6pm, at 1 Johnson St

Respectfully Submitted,

Helena Minton

6/28/18