

Friends of North Andover Trails
Minutes of March 27, 2019 Meeting

Present: Lisa Roberts, Liz Armstrong, Jim Petty, James Murphy, Stan Limpert, Steve Dennen, Joe Lehmann, Jeanne Velde, Glen Aspeslagh, Rob Jones, Helena Minton, Tom Powers, Mike Agosti, Lindsay Gross

Membership: Jeanne reported that membership had been quiet, no new members this month.

Treasurer Report: In January-February 2019 Steve reported that there was \$682.04 in net income.

Trail Guides: Stan reported that the current guide has been selling steadily. There are enough of these guides to last awhile. Deb Monte, the photographer, asked if a second printing was in the works, but Glen has not committed to it yet.

Report from the Trails/Trail Work Schedule: Tom has been walking the trails and said most were in good condition, but nothing is growing right now. As spring gets underway, trails will need clearing. He would like to stick to a work schedule of the first Saturday of each month, starting at 9am, except for July, because that weekend falls around the July 4th holiday. That will be changed to July 14th. He proposed that the April 6th Work day be at Carter Hill. The schedule will be posted online.

Liz asked if Tom had been walking the Bay Circuit Trail in Harold Parker. He said he had walked some parts and will walk the rest. Brooks School students would like an outdoor work project and Liz thought clearing and/or brushing back part of the BCT trail in Harold Parker might be a good project for them.

Lisa Roberts asked if someone had created a new trail at Foster Farm. She found the trail veered off at one point when she was out cross country skiing. Several small trees have been cut, leaving sharp pointed pieces of wood. The answer is there is no new trail. Tom will investigate.

Mike has walked the Bay Circuit re-routed trail and said it looks ok.

Glen asked about kiosk repairs. Tom shored up the Carter Hill kiosk. Some kiosks, including the one at James Swamp, are listing and need to be shored up. Glen will send an email to Lisa Hughes to let her know about the other kiosks.

Events: The extended, four-hour walk in Boxford State Forest scheduled for March 10 was postponed, due to heavy rain and wind. Mike will re-schedule at some point.

Rob and Jim Petty attended a meeting of the Greenbelt Nature Collaborative at Cox Reservation in Essex, on March 1st. Many nature/conservation groups were represented, including i-Farm and North Shore Nature Programs, a for-profit organization which offers programs for children.

Friends of North Andover Trails Minutes of March 27, 2019 Meeting, p. 2

Ongoing Projects:

Lake Trail Boardwalk: Boardwalk needs to be extended a few feet at beginning and end. James Murphy said he will call Larry and offer to help finish the project.

Bay Circuit Trail – Boxford State Forest Boardwalk - Mike and Liz talked about the importance of making sure the pans and poles are not placed in the middle of the stream. Lisa Hughes does not want anything to interfere with the natural flow of water. Pre-building will be done in Mike's driveway. Liz stressed the importance of finishing this project. Mike will set work dates.

Bay Circuit Trails Stone Wall Boardwalk – Liz gave a presentation at the CPC meeting and the Committee approved \$15,000 for materials. This sum will also need to be approved at North Andover Town Meeting on May 14th.

Earth Day– Sunday, April 28th. Mike will organize a clean-up project, again, on Bradford Street. A police detail will be arranged.

Signs: Glen and Lindsay said there is no update on the plastic signs. Liz said the ecology/beaver education sign for the Farnum trail needs to be completed. Deb has taken many photos but total poster image needs to be created. Lisa Roberts offered to help.

Town Meeting: In addition to the CPC funds for the boardwalk, the town will also be asked to vote on acquisition of property co-ordinated by Greenbelt: \$200,000 for 9.2 acres. Greenbelt will raise \$50,000 and has also agreed to create a parking lot. The conservation area, located off Dale Street, and Village Way, if approved, will be known as the Glennie Woodlot. The Glennie family once owned the Glennie Dairy. Rob said it is a beautiful piece of property.

Upcoming Events:

Hike, April 14th – Stevens to Stevens Hike, Part 2. This hike will showcase the new boardwalk. Mike will lead.

Webelo Hike -April 27 or 28th -Glen will lead a hike for 4th and 5th grade boy scouts known as Webelos. This hike is being organized with Pack 89 at the Trinitarian Church.

ReVision Energy Volunteer Day: May 2: Revision Energy, a North Andover solar energy company, contacted Glen about having an outdoor volunteer day for its employees. They would like this to happen on Thursday, May 2nd. Glen said he would arrange.

Sheep Shearing: Sunday, May 19, 10am-4pm Joe Lehmann is coordinating the FONAT table. The group voted to give Joe the go ahead to buy needed equipment and supplies, such as a larger sign, folding chairs, stickers to give away, etc. The group also talked about having balloons with

Friends of North Andover Trails Minutes of March 27, 2019 Meeting, p. 3

FONAT name and logo printed on them. Joe wants to make sure there is phone credit card capability for each shift. He will be sending out an email asking for volunteers.

Next Meeting:

April 24, 2019, 6PM at 1 Johnson Street (The Brickstore on the rotary.)

Respectfully Submitted,

Helena Minton

April 11, 2019