

# Squannacook Greenways, Inc.

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Attending:

Mark Cram, Peter Cunningham, Emma Grazier, Dan Hager, Linda Mack, Frank Murphy, Bill Rideout, Joan Wotkowicz

### MONTHLY MEETING

---

#### Phase 4 follow-up

The Groton Orders of Conditions is now closed and a signed document is expected soon. We will wait to schedule a close-out with the Townsend Conservation Commission.

People have commented that the fisherman parking fills up fast, now that phase 4 is complete. We discussed adding more stone dust over the exposed rails thru the grassy area. We would also like to build more teardrop-shaped crossing structures at the edge of Gary's parking area and at the two remaining Crosswinds crossings.

#### MassTrails Conference

This year's conference will be on Saturday, October 26 at the DCU Center in Worcester, with additional programs during the week:

- Chainsaw workshop October 22-23
- Pre-conference field trips and workshops 24-25
- October 25 - Municipal workshops

More info and registration:

<https://projects.erg.com/conferences/masstrails/2024/>

#### Updates on Groton & Townsend extensions

Squannacook Greenways did a six-mile site walk from Bertozzi to the Nashua River trestle with representatives from Fisheries & Wildlife,

Natural Heritage, DEP, and Dillis & Roy.

We are still waiting for a response letter from NHESP. One of their requirements is to permit the entire project at once.

A Groton trails committee is considering building the rail trail south from West Groton to the trestle. They would negotiate the railroad lease and apply for grant funding. We may assist with permitting. Peter will reach out to schedule a joint meeting to discuss strategy.

#### Update on Old Meetinghouse Road/Meehan Bridge

Townsend's select board is in flux. Once new selectmen are appointed, we will try to find out if they support reopening Old Meetinghouse Road as a town road.

#### Update on Townsend Harbor projects

At last report, Townsend was working with MassTrails on an alternative plan for the grant award for a Townsend Harbor sidewalk.

Bill reported that the Historic Society's project is more than halfway finished. They are tunneling under Route 119 for the septic system!

#### Townsend CPA status

Community Preservation Act will be question #6 on the November ballot. The committee sent a mailing to all Townsend residents and scheduled a public meeting for Thursday, September 26 at Memorial Hall. They are also doing outreach at the Senior Center and the library's Truck-a-palooza event.

#### November 16 trail work

We scheduled a Saturday workday to do leaf blowing and other cleanup including removing

the remaining trash barrels. Bill will advertise on Facebook.

### **Financial report/ fundraising**

Bill reported total assets of ~\$43K. He purchased three engraved benches for phase 3 and 4.

### **Other maintenance / projects / events**

We are in a drought and the trees we planted along Depot Street are very dry. Mark will try to rig up his watering system again.

### **Review meeting minutes**

A motion to accept the minutes of our August 14, 2024 meeting was seconded and approved unanimously.

**Our next Zoom meeting will be on October 16, 2024 at 7:00 PM.**

**Reminder: All directors please sign Conflict of Interest forms and return to Bill.**

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

---

### **Appointment of Directors**

We unanimously elected Tim Palmer, Mark Cram, Peter Cunningham, and Joan Wotkowicz for new three-year terms. Frank Murphy was appointed as a new director.

The new terms of our Board of Directors are:

<b>Director</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Linda Mack	September 2025
Dan Hager	September 2025
Bill Rideout	September 2025
Dale Gates	September 2025
Rick Bailey	September 2025
Emma Grazier	September 2027
Tim Palmer	September 2027

Mark Cram	September 2027
Peter Cunningham	September 2027
Frank Murphy	September 2027
Joan Wotkowicz	September 2027

### **Appointment of Officers**

We unanimously elected the following officers for a one-year term:

<b>Officers</b>	
President	Peter Cunningham
Vice President	Linda Mack
Treasurer	Bill Rideout
Clerk	Emma Grazier

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Wotkowicz

Clerk

Squannacook Greenways, Inc.