

Squannacook Greenways, Inc. - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Attendees

Directors

Mark Cram, Peter Cunningham, Dale Gates, Emma Grazier, Linda Mack, Frank Murphy, Tim Palmer, Bill Rideout, Joan Wotkowicz

Guests

Bruce Easom

Agenda

1. Phase 4 follow-up
2. Updates on Groton & Townsend extensions
 - o Current Groton CPA engineering & design grant
 - o Nexus of Groton Rail Trail Committee with Squannacook Greenways
3. Update on Old Meetinghouse Road/Meehan Bridge
4. Update on Townsend Harbor projects
5. Townsend CPA status
6. November 16 trail work/signage
7. Financial report/fundraising
8. Other maintenance/projects/events
9. Review meeting minutes from September 18, 2024
10. Schedule next meeting

Action Items

- ❖ Bill to request extension for Wild & Scenic Grant (*complete - 10/17*)
- ❖ Mark to share mock-up of sign (*complete - 11/14*)
- ❖ Peter & Bill to coordinate with John Barret on adding Certificate of Compliance to deed.

Notes

1. Phase 4 follow-up
2. Updates on Groton & Townsend extensions

Nexus of West Groton Rail Trail Committee (WGRTC) with Squannacook Greenways

- Bruce Easom is WGRTC Clerk and will be SG's liaison with that group.
- WGRTC plans to submit an application for 2026 CPA funds to pay town counsel to negotiate lease with MBTA - will firm up by end of Jan 2025.
- Groton extension site walk occurred last month.
- Natural Heritage is firm that all projects be filed under the same application.

Townsend Extension

- Discussed scheduling a site walk for Townsend extension in November.
- Next steps:

- SG to apply for a MassTrails grant for permitting on the Townsend side (receive next June/July) and then, once funding secured, proceed jointly with WGRTC.
 - Pause Frank McPartlan's work and/or work on scope of services until funding source is secured.
3. Update on Old Meetinghouse Road/Meehan Bridge (*covered above*)
 4. Update on Townsend Harbor projects
 - Bill has been discussing w/ Gary about restoring the two small trestles in the harbor - will follow-up after the November election.
 - SRRT has until April when the Order of Conditions extension runs out.
 5. Townsend CPA status
 - Yard signs available.
 - CPA will be Ballot Question 6 on Nov. 5th election.
 6. November 16 trail work/signage
 - Will focus on clearing trail of organics with blowers and rakes
 7. Financial report/fundraising
 - Bill reported total assets of \$43k.
 - Three new granite benches ordered from Leominster Monuments.
 - Wild & Scenic grant
 - Signs: Mark Cram to design and share a mock-up.
 - Fence: Bill to email Lucy to request extension or scope revision. Mark can purchase lumber ahead of time if we want to avoid extension.
 8. Other maintenance/projects/events
 - Branch hanging down - Dan has offered to take care of it.
 - Need to record the Certificate of Compliance on our deed - Peter to send to Bill who will share with John Barrett to submit for us.
 9. Review meeting minutes from September 18, 2024
 - Joan moved. Bill seconded. Minutes approved.
 10. Schedule next meeting
 - Wednesday November 20 at 7 PM

Meeting adjourned 7:46 PM