

Squannacook Greenways, Inc. - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Attendees

Directors

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

Guests

Bruce Easom

Agenda

- November/December recap
- Project Updates:
 - Groton & Townsend extensions
 - Old Meetinghouse Road/Meehan Bridge - (Reminder: Site walk scheduled for Wednesday at 9 AM)
 - Townsend Harbor activities
- Grants:
 - MassTrails Grant due Feb. 3
 - 2024 Community Grant spending deadline
- Financial and Fundraising Reports
- Maintenance, Projects & Events
 - Kiosk Eagle Project - Michael Jones
- Review [November Meeting Minutes](#)
- Schedule Next Meeting

Decisions Made/Action Items

- ❖ Peter to draft letter of support from Squannacook Greenways for West Groton Rail Trails Committee's Groton CPA application
- ❖ Boy Scout kiosk to be placed at Fisherman's Parking Lot

Notes

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

Project Updates:

Groton & Townsend Extensions

- Townsend extension site walk with Natural Heritage happened this morning.
- Permitting agencies want the leases in-hand prior to proceeding with permitting.

- Q: Do we need to have all leases negotiated before filing with the state (including West Groton Rail Trail Committee's leases)?
- WGRTC is asking Groton CPA for additional \$45k to cover work needed to create the filings all the way down to the trestle bridge.
 - **Decisions made: Peter to draft a letter of support from Squannacook Greenways for the WGRTC's Groton CPA application. Peter moved, Joan seconded, Board approved.**
- WGRTC having some difficulties with the southern section freight rights.
- Dillis & Roy started scoping the plans for permitting, but got into too much detail. We will provide them with copies of what we previously did for permitting.

Old Meetinghouse Rd/Meehan Bridge

- Board discussed dropping this from our permitting application and allowing the town to assert their rights over the road/bridge if they so choose.

Grants

- MassTrails Grant due Feb. 3
- 2024 Community Grant spending deadline
 - Will use grant to purchase signs and lumber
- Townsend CPA update
 - Bill meeting w/ Townsend Select Board next Tues 1/21 to review CPA bylaw to get it on the warrant for the spring town meeting

Financial and Fundraising Reports

Financials

- Bill presented balance sheet and P&L
- Bill notes he made a \$300 correction to "other income"

Fundraising

- If we get the Mass Trails Grant, we'll need to contribute a 20% match - Bill suggests another brick fundraiser. *(Note: After the January meeting, we decided to include the Groton section of trail in our MassTrails Grant application. Thus, we were able to use the Groton CPA grant as our "match" - eliminating the need for a brick fundraiser.)*

Maintenance, Projects & Events

- Kiosk Eagle Project - Michael Jones
 - **Decisions made: Board agreed to place the kiosk at Fisherman's Parking Lot.**

Review November Meeting Minutes

- Minutes reviewed and accepted by Board vote

Schedule Next Meeting

- Next meeting scheduled for February 19 at 7:00 PM

Meeting adjourned 7:49 PM