

Cabot Trails Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2021

Present: Kris Schmitt, Gary Gulka, Dana Glazier, Paul Wade, Michael Socks

Next Meeting: **August 11, 6:30 pm**

Approval of Minutes

Draft minutes of June 9 approved without changes.

Public Comment

No public comment

Administrative

FY 2021 budget was spent down with purchase of lumber for kiosks. Currently \$500 budget for FY 2022 and most or all of additional \$500 from anonymous donation still available. Future funding may be available through CCIF and Forest & Parks trail grant program to be discussed under New Business.

Update on Trail Mapping

No updates. Priorities include completing and redoing mapping for Cabot Winter Trail, completing and posting map for Talbert Trails and mapping any additional trails that we complete, such as the trail to Marshfield Village and Melissa Jenkins trail. Need to have these maps available on Trail Forks and town web site. Gary said that his daughter has volunteered to help us with mapping and web site.

Trail Updates and Priorities

Village Trail – no further update, other than VAST trail improvements are in progress on Guzman property.

Cross VT – LVRT/Marshfield Village-Cabot Village Linkages – Met with Will Ameden and walked the trails on his property. Provided him with the landowner permission form. We are ready to mark the trail and map on his property. He will also be in contact with the new owners of the Fritz property – Ouwellen who are receptive to continuing the trail on their property and then we will need to meet with them.

Melissa Jenkins Trail – Gary and Paul walked the trails. We need to follow up with Cheryl McQueeney on which of the trails and loops can be part of the trail system and provide her with landowner permission form. Have contacted Katie Trautz and plan on meeting to discuss permission to use a trail on their property that would connect Melissa Jenkins Trail to Cabot Plains Rd.

Talbert Farm Trails – No further update. Chuck is hoping to meet with adjacent landowner this summer

Burt Property – We should schedule a time to walk the property in near future to look at trail possibilities.

Hourihan Property – Need to meet with Hourihans to check out trail possibilities.

Cabot Winter Trail – Need to re-map this trail, get permission from Eister, and get permission from Andrews (Langone Rd connection).

Town Forest – Also need to follow up on loop trail connection and general maintenance. Also need to follow up on use of town garage property and adjacent property for winter access.

Williams Property – No update. Still waiting to hear from Williams and meet with him on site to discuss trail.

Gary will try to visit the East Montpelier trails to check out their kiosks and posted information.

We agreed that our current priorities for the next few months are as follows:

August – Work on the trail network between Marshfield Village and Cabot Village

September – Melissa Jenkins Trail

October – Town Forest

November – Wiinter Trail

Trailhead Kiosks

Let's decide on a design and build the first one for placement near Elm Street Cemetery. Work day scheduled for **August 7 at 9 am** at Dana's house to construct the kiosk.

New Business

It was agreed that for the time being we would change the start time of our monthly meetings to 6:30 pm.

Cabot Community Investment Fund – We are awaiting further guidance/information from the CCIF Committee on community grants that could be applied for.

Vermont Outdoor Recreation Community Grant Program - \$50,000 + recreational trail grants are available from VT Dept of Forests, Parks & Recreation. There are application development meetings coming up on August 3 and August 10 to get more information on eligible funding. Letter of interest is due August 27. Applicants will be notified during the week of September 27 whether to submit a full application which is due November 15. Link to the grant program:

<https://fpr.vermont.gov/recreation/recreation-grants/vorec-community-grant-program#Application%20requirements>

The Committee agreed that we would set up regular trail work days on Thursdays at 10 am. The first is scheduled for July 22. The next is scheduled for August 21.