

Cabot Trails Committee  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
October 18, 2023

Present: Dana Glazier, Kris Schmitt, Gary Gulka, Michael Socks, Monique Gerbex, Chuck Talbert, Lori Augustyniak

Next Meeting: **November 15**

Approval of Minutes

Draft minutes of September 20 approved without changes.

Public Comment

None

Administrative Matters

We have had recent expenditures. The spreadsheet had not been updated to show the Burt's Orchard trail materials which have now been paid for. Next step is to get reimbursement from VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

Volunteer Hours

Gary - 12

Dana – 11

Monique – 4.5

Kris -5

Michael – 5

Chuck – 9

Paul - 4

Trail Updates and Revier Workplan

**Grant Related**

**Grant extension request on hold; Gary will review request process; we will place on next meeting agenda.**

Lori suggested that we wait until summer to gauge our progress is completing grant deliverables.

**Project Team Meeting – still on track for November.**

Parking area improvements – on hold until the beginning of the year.

**Bench design – Dana will investigate this and report back.**

**Langone Trail damage – Gary will try to set up a meeting late next week in the afternoon. We can also discuss trail realignment if the landowner is still considering this.**

**Old Center Trail – VAST bridge has been repaired, but there is a gap or hole on the uphill side where the bridge meets the streambank. We will inquire whether VAST will repair this. We decided to postpone work on the trail until spring.**

**Burt's Orchard Trail – Greg Burt will let us know when trail work begins, and volunteer help is needed.**

#### **Non-Grant Related**

LVRT – Draft Amenities Plan is being finalized. Walden is not interested in pursuing trail parking on Rt 215, however, there is interest in looking for land on Bricketts Crossing. The Amenities Plan includes a kiosk where the LVRT intersects in Walden near the Cabot border. This would direct trail users to our trail network and Cabot Village. It is possible that Walden and Cabot could apply for a Project Development grant under VOREC to explore the feasibility of a parking area. Northern VT Development Association (NVDA) can assist with an application.

**Volunteer Service Agreements – Lori will check with Betty to see what is on file for Trails Committee members.**

Trail across Voigt property – Chuck met with Dudley Voigt and the County Forester. There are no issues with a trail since it does not materially affect the Forest Management Plan for the property. It was decided to defer work on this trail until the spring.

Town Forest trail repairs – Defer to the spring.

#### Trail Maps and Apps

**The Town Forest map needs to be put up on the Trails Committee page on the town website. Gary will work on.**

**Trail Finder – Gary will submit paperwork and trail photos to get our trails posted on the Trail Finder website.**

#### Public Outreach/Social Media

Reopening of trails has been shared on social media.

**It was agreed that Lori will draft for review and then submit an announcement in the Chronicle about safety during hunting season.**

**Lori will report back at the next meeting on the social media documents that Bryce has worked on.**

#### Landowner Appreciation

**A subcommittee of Dana, Lori and Gary will meet and report back at the November meeting on an approach to thank landowners for allowing public use of their land. The subcommittee will also report back on proposed acknowledgement wording on kiosks to recognize landowners.**

### Trail Grant Opportunity

There was support for submitting a VOREC grant for repairing flood damage on trails. This is a specific category of grants in the 2023 grant cycle. **It was suggested that we get at least two contractors to give the committee repair estimates for Talbert Farm Trails, Langone Trail, and Old Center Trail. Chuck, Dana, and Gary will work on a budget. Applications are due by December 15.**