

Trails Committee
Meeting Minutes (approved)
May 26, 2026

Present: Dana Glazier (chair), Kris Schmitt (treasurer), Michael Socks (secretary), Lynn Rockwell, Lori Augustyniak

Next Meeting: June 23, 2026

Approval of Minutes: Draft minutes for 4/28/2026 approved as written. Michael to confirm and follow public posting requirements for future meeting minutes.

Public Comment: None

Administrative Matters

Budget. For this month, expenses were landowner appreciation gifts \$500, plant pressing event supplies \$100, event table canopy \$69.98, parade supplies (snack giveaways, t-shirt) \$104.39, gasoline \$120. YTD spend is \$1,883.77. FY remaining budget is \$116.23. Lynn will submit additional receipts for kiosk flowers totaling about \$35. Additional items might include spray paint (Kris) and fasteners for blazes (Dana). Kris will check cutoff date for billing to the current FY.

Volunteer Hours. Dana 24, Kris 12, Lynn 7.5, Michael 7, Chuck 7, Paul? Jeannie? Lori suggested highlighting last year's volunteer hours in a Cabot Chronicle article. Kris will send hours and Lori will draft.

Membership. Dana will check with Jeannie for next meeting. Still seeking someone to replace Paul (KH?).

Trails events

- July 4th parade. Supplies have been purchased. Maybe get some kids to march in the parade with us and decorate a wagon?
- Trailside plant pressing. Schedule Thursday 7/16 at 6-7:30pm. Supplies have been purchased. Location TBD. Likely at Willey Building and Old Town Center trail. Possibly at McQueeney.
- Fall event. Dana to talk to Greg Burt about hosting. Library would like to arrange storytelling and pumpkin carving.

VOREC grant

- The grant ends 6/1/2026 and we have successfully spent nearly all the allocated funds (\$62,500) on the projects in our application.
- Lori submitted all remaining grant deliverables and they were approved by VT Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation on 5/26.
- Kris submitted remaining grant expenses. The Willey Building kiosk installation put us over budget for the Town Center/Old Center Trail line item but we are under budget for the Administrative line item by about the same amount. Kris will contact Joe Kill, Grants Specialist at FPR, to see if we can resolve without an amendment.
- Lori encouraged committee members to review the deliverables document to see all that we've accomplished under this grant. Lori will share with the Selectboard.
- There was a suggestion to gather the committee for a beverage to celebrate.

Field Work

Members are scouting trails along with other volunteers to do light maintenance and prioritize major work needed.

- Burt. Dana will scout next week and talk to Greg about an October event.
- Langone. Some light work needed to replace pulled or broken grade stake signage. Thinking about putting 4x4 posts in place of grade stakes. Kris will talk to Dawn.
- McQueeney. Dana and Lynn may try to get to McQueeney on Thursday.
- Old Town Center. Willey Building kiosk has been installed. Poetry plaques have been re-installed (2 poems vandalized and 1 post pulled out last year).
- Talbert. Chuck said trails are in good shape. 4x4 posts are in. Need to dress posts with maps and signage. Michael will print and laminate 7 maps showing new cutoff where bridge is out. Is other signage down? Okay to use Mitchell section trails for now. Dana will ask Chuck to scout this section for maintenance needs.
- Town Forest. Kris scouted Town Forest. Lots of blowdowns blocking trails. Requires 4 people with 2 chainsaws x half day.
- Winter trails. Dana and Kathleen scouted Rolf Trail up to Dubray Road. Generally in good shape. Re-signed some areas. Eister section is still too wet.

First priority is Town Forest. Will use first regular workday on 6/27. Need to announce on FPF and Cabot Connects as we get closer to the date.

Wait to announce second priority. Need reports for Burt, McQueeney, and Talbert.

About 15 bluebird houses left to place along the trails before fall. Should be located around open fields. Could go up on Burt, McQueeney, Talbert/Mitchell, and some sections of Winter trail. Dana will talk to Chuck, Greg and Cheryl about potential locations.

Tentative monthly workday dates:

- Saturday June 27, 9am-noon
- Saturday August 1, 9am-noon
- Saturday August 29, 9am-noon
- Saturday September 26, 9am-noon
- Saturday October 31, 9am-noon

New business

Complaint by landowner representative. There was confusion about the property boundaries for the locations of the first bluebird boxes we installed. The landowner representative contacted Dana to complain. The landowner representative has asked to discuss trails at the 6/2 Selectboard meeting. Dana and Kris will attend.

Trail enforcement. Discussed the Trail Committee's responsibility to enforce landowner use restrictions placed on sections of trail we maintain (ex. no ATVs). There was consensus that these are not new issues (problems existed before there were any formal trails in Cabot) and we do not have the ability to monitor trails or the authority to enforce trail regulations. We will try to educate trail users through conversations and signage and use trail barriers to discourage inappropriate uses. Landowners have the right to remove permission for public use of their land, so we always try to maintain positive relationships.

Grant completion notice for landowners. There was a suggestion to share the final grant report along with a thank you note to landowners impacted by the grant activities (Andrews, Brooks, Burt, Glinka, Town of Cabot).

Trail counters. CVRPC has offered 2 trail counters for the season. There was agreement to place one at Burt's and one by the bridge at Old Center. Michael will contact CVRPC to arrange installation.

Sign boards. Lynn has old signage. Per Lori these can be moved to a CCA storage location. Lynn and Lori will connect to get them moved.