

Middlesex Trails Committee  
Monday, February 13, 2023  
Minutes

Participants: Adrienne Magida, Michael Levine, George Longenecker, Joanne Mankoff, Mitch Osiecki, Dave Shepard

George Longenecker moved and Dave Shepard seconded approval of the meeting minutes for January 9, 2023. Motion passed.

Update on status of signs and plans for installing signs (both trailhead and trail markers) - Mitch reported that he has the printed signs for the trailheads and the markers. He has no firm plans about where to place the trail markers yet. He hasn't talked with Eric and Vic (Road Foreman and Road Commissioner for Middlesex) about placement of signs and the possibility of having the road crew make the holes for the posts but will do that soon. Mitch reported the final cost was \$296 for the big signs, \$34 for the small sign and \$54 for the trail markers for a total of \$384.

Mitch will email Sarah Merriman informing her about the signs and ask her to share these with the Selectboard. Mitch will also talk with Rupert and Jan Thouron about the placement of the Bear Swamp sign.

Adrienne will email Sarah Merriman and the Select Board to check on the possibility of getting a Hunger Mountain Trailhead sign put on the corner of Story Road.

Michael reported about an email he received from a town resident asking questions about the trails and parking. After discussion, it was decided Michael, with help from Mitch, will draft a general introduction to the trail tab on What's Next Middlesex for the committee to look at next month.

Dave Shepard says Ross has a digital copy of the Chases Mountain trail sign. Adrienne will email Ross to see if he can get that to Mitch to include on the What's Next Middlesex website. Mitch will use pictures Michael took to update pictures on the website.

Next steps for Trails Committee -

Plans for promoting trail use once signs are in place - A new idea is for the Trails Committee to sponsor walks on each trail and advertise them on FPF to introduce each trail and give people a chance to walk the trails with other people.

Update on draft signs for Bushey Road trail and Bolduc Road/Tangletown Road/Dolan Road trail [Middlesex Trails Signage Project](#) - A description of the Bolduc Road/tangletown Road/Dolan Road trail has been added to the sign.

Wood Road through to Mackenzie Road in Worcester, Tanglewood Trail - Joanne reported that Mackenzie Road is a private road in Worcester maintained by the residents on the road. She also shared information about the Worcester Rec Committee (appointed by the Select Board). Their committee is getting started on trail work in Worcester, is interested in what our committee is doing and will look into the Wood Road/Mackenzie Road loop.

Joanne also walked the Bolduc Road/Tangletown Road loop recently and met Michael Morrissette. He knows the people who just purchased a big track of land (the Apple property) on Tangletown Road and said they might be interested in having trails on that property. Joanne will contact Michael to see if he is willing to make contact with the landowners.

Update on Galaxy property - Michael reported that he is trying to get ahold of Russ Bennett and schedule a walk on the property.

Walk planned for **Sunday, February 19 at 9:30** in the Town Forest to check out a possible loop trail that begins along the path passing the cabins. Adrienne will email a reminder to people.

Report from Conservation Commission - George reported the Wrightsville Committee appointed Collin O'Neil for a full time director which will allow him more time to apply for grants and build trails. The Conservation Commission voted to change their by-laws which will enable the monthly meeting to be changed from the first Thursday in the month to the fourth Tuesday in the month starting in a few months. The Planning Commission contacted the Conservation Commission about supporting them in a national resources inventory. The CC also discussed themed walks (wildflowers, geology, etc.) People wondered whether those walks could be combined with walks that introduce the trails.

Michael shared information about a presentation discussing the impact trails have on wildlife/forest habitats and will share a link to the presentation.

▶ [The Impact of Trails on Wildlife: What We Know and What We Can Do](#)

The date of the next meeting - Monday, March 13, 2023, the second Monday of the month. Agenda items will include review of FAQ's, information obtained about owners of land on Tangletown Road and a draft calendar of walks in conjunction with the Conservation Commission.

8:10 Adjourn