

**Wilmington Trail Committee Minutes for
Thursday, December 12, 2024**

Members present: Joanne Yankura, Jeff Menges, Carol Bois, Elynn Lebron, Alan Baker
Absent: Julie Koehler, Bob Fisher

Meeting called to order at 6:06pm

- 1) **Changes to the agenda:** Update on new Signs
- 2) **Public Comments:** None
- 3) **Motion to accept prior minutes:** Made the following corrections
 - Correct spelling Fisher and Schitts Creek
 - Add Elynn Lebron to members presentMotion to accept November 14th minutes as amended made by Carol. Jeff seconded. Approved by all.
- 4) **Financial Report:** No change from prior report. \$3,715 is the current balance.
- 5) **1% Fund Request:** – Discussed draft and agreed to make fundraising items noted in last paragraph examples of what may be done with the funds as we'd like to try a number of things to determine what is most successful.
 - Allotted approximately \$700 more for mowing next year in the 1% request to allow for possible contractor price increases.
 - Voted on proposed 1% fund request: Jeff made a motion to approve the 1% request with proposed amendments. Carol seconded. Approved by all.**Action Items:** Carol to amend and Joanne to submit for the Selectboard meeting on 12/17
- 6) **Update on new Signs:** Jeff has not received the signs from Bob. Jessica has not received the invoice to pay. We think this is because they used an old shipping address when delivering the signs.
Action Items: Bob to give Jeff the signs. Jeff to drill holes in the signs and send soft copy of invoice to Jessica.
- 7) **Mowing Bids:** Jeremy White had mentioned that downed trees on the hiker only section of Lisle Hill trail are likely to be a continual event, requiring constant clean up by WTC to allow for mowing. He asked whether WTC wanted to close that trail portion, in part, as a cost savings measure. After some discussion, it was decided to keep that portion of the Lisle Hill trail open. Decided to reduce the number of times we have the Beaver Brook

trail mowed in 2025 from 10 to 5 times. Discussed using GPS in 2025 to map trail mowing locations and distances in order to obtain more accurate and comparable contractor cost estimates in the future. Jeff Nugent, Windham County Regional Commission GIS manager, said he can help to create a mowing map.

- Voted on putting the Trail mowing contract out to bid for the 2025 season. Carol made a motion to put the mowing contract out to bid as amended. Jeff seconded. Approved by all.

Action Items: Joanne to submit information to Jessica to gather bids.

- 8) Fund Raising: Discussed options for creating a page. All agreed a QR code that can be shared is most critical and that we want to have an electronic way to capture and track donations before proactively fund raising. Discussed capturing email/ mailing addresses to send Thank You Notes.

Action Items: Elynn and Carol to meet with Christine Richter in January to discuss costs and functionality associated with the town website vendor vs online tools like Zeffy and GiveButter.

9) **HT&W project updates:**

- RTP Grant: Vermont Community Foundation reported back on our application; no funds were identified that would apply to WTC at this time. An ongoing search will remain active until the end of January.
- The RTP grant pre-application was submitted with a total funding request of \$33k that included a kiosk, parking area and other signage, and segment 5 construction costs. Invitations to submit the full grant application will be announced on 12/13.
- Joanne met with the Matt Murano, Police Chief, to discuss future Fairview Avenue parking area signs. In order to be consistent with the Town parking ordinance, the “no overnight parking” sign must include a curfew time (e.g. no parking from 11pm to 6am). Matt highly recommended including a “No Boat Trailer Parking” as well. Because the lot is privately owned by GRH, Matt will need to have a discussion with the Town Manager regarding the police department’s enforcement capability. The current town dog ordinance only requires that dogs must be in control at all times. In order to require that dogs be leashed when on the Hoot, Toot, & Whistle trail, WTC would need to request a change to the town

dog ordinance; WTC was encouraged to consider making that request, especially for the HT&W trail. It is multi-use with a lot of bikers and runners.

10) Trail work priorities for 2025

- Put up new trailhead signs: May not be realistic to put up signs in the winter time. Would like to put them up in the highly visible spots – Valley Trail and HT&W.
- Fixing the kiosk for Chimney Hill: Jeff and Bob to finish work and Marshall will hold it in the garage until we can put it back in the ground.

The meeting concluded at 7:06pm.

Next Meeting: January 9th at 6pm at the Town Offices

Respectfully submitted,

Elynn Lebron