

Wilmington Trail Committee
Minutes from Thursday, September 9 at 5:30 pm
Town Hall Meeting Room

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

Meeting called to order at 5:33 pm`

1. **Changes to the agenda:** None.
2. **Public Comments:** None.
3. **Approve minutes** from 9/4/2025: Joanne made motion to approve, Jeff seconded, all in favor.
4. **Ordinance:** Matt Murano spoke about the current town ordinance. It only requires that animals be under the owners control, not on a leash. Control is open to interpretation, so it is hard to enforce. Matt recommended a blanket change to the ordinance, as naming specific trails and not others would be challenging to enforce. Also, most trails are on private property and the owners shouldn't have to worry about dogs wondering onto their property. Next step: draft language for the Town Manager to submit to the attorney to review before submitting to the Selectboard.

Request to modify Section 7-3 of the Town of Wilmington Animal Control Ordinance by adding the following section;

7-3(a) Dogs must be leashed at all times while on any public trails maintained by the Wilmington Trail Committee. Dogs off-leash on such trails, which are not on the owner's premises, will be considered running at large under this ordinance.

Carol made the motion to approve, Joanne seconded, all approved

5. **VT Recreation & Parks/Vt Trails & Greenways Council (VTGC) combined conference:** Carol attended yesterday. Great speakers and good to meet people.
6. **Financial Report:** Received invoice for mowing of \$7,020 which is about \$1,000 less than [Jeremy's bid for this mowing season] last year. This makes the balance from the 1% fund of \$6,990 (**Jeremy's bid for mowing 2025 was \$8320**)
7. **HT&W project updates:** Gretchen Havreluk gave an update. There are erosion issues with bridges which will increase costs. Joe Saladino gave a few options to address this 1) culvert 2) extend the 2 bridges. We expect the overage will be around \$31k, but are waiting for a second invoice from Joe to confirm total costs. Joe thinks the culvert will be a better and longer lasting solution. Joe, Gretchen and Carol will walk the trail

Saturday morning at 8am to review. The rest of the trail is mostly done, except some aggregate fill. The eastern part of the trail was reopened, but the western piece is still closed and not complete.

8. **HT&W Fundraising** – Decided to leverage Beck’s after getting quotes from numerous vendors and move forward with 6x9 Postcards as this can reach everyone in **Wilmington** and West Dover (around 3k addresses) plus all 2nd home others from the Grand List (around 1,700). Estimated costs \$3,032.44. May vary with final postage.
9. **Work bee plans/priorities** –The lollipop loop on Lisle Hill trail still needs trimming. Carol & Elynn to coordinate a Work bee with Friends of Trails at 10am on Sunday 10/12.

10. Other Business:

- a. eBike – Matt explained that there is no way to enforce keeping eBikes off the trails as “No motorized vehicles” doesn’t include eBikes.
- b. Shed – might be empty by end of next week to start to use for storage.
- c. Trail signs – Signs for the HT&W from the grant are in and look good. New **trailhead** signs for all trails now have holes and are in the town office ready for putting up at the trailheads.
- d. Melanie Winters approached us at the Wildlife Festival about a new Scout project, introducing Dalton Hurley. He’s planning on coming to the November meeting so we should think of possible projects for him - possibly a new kiosk.
- e. October 25th, new resident hike on the HT&W trail

Next meeting November 13th at 5:30.

Elynn made a motion to adjourn at 6:55. Carol seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Elynn Lebron

Action Items:

Carol:

- Email Mike Garber about the holes in the bridges on the Valley Trail

Elynn:

- Send email to Friends of Trails inviting them to participate in a work bee at 10am on Saturday 10/12 on Lisle Hill meet at Wahoo’s.
- Send update on HT&W for email newsletters.
- Put extra signs up and trim Lake Raponda trail

Bob & Alan:

- Attend hike on 10/25 on the HT&W