

Wilmington Trail Committee
Thursday, December 11, 2025 - 5:30 PM
Town Hall Meeting Room

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

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm

1. **Changes to the agenda:** No changes
2. **Public Comments:** None
3. **Approve minutes** from 11/13/2025 – Joanne made a motion to approve, Carol seconded, all in favor.
4. **Eagle Scout Presentation:** Daltyn Hurley presented 3 ideas for his Scout Project. 1) Eagle Plaque to educate hikers on the local eagle. 2) Trail sign on HT&W past the stairs where folks have gone off the main trail 3) Railings on the new HT&W stairs. Discussed doing multiple plaques with educational info in addition to the one on eagles, e.g. history of the trails, importance of wetlands, town under the lake. **Next steps:** Come up with 6 ideas for the plaques and present to the committee.
5. **Mowing Request for Proposals (RFP) for 2026:** Need to get the RFP out early 2026. Saved some money this year by only mowing Beaver Brook 5 times instead of 10, but Jeremy White recommended we go back to 10 times so he can cut the grass shorter. Discussed having it done 7-8 times in 2026 instead. Some of the HT&W mowing needs will be reduced 2026 due to the aggregate fill. Discussed updating the language to call out the width of the mower being “approximately 5 feet wide” instead of requiring the trail to be mowed 6 feet wide and that mowing would only be required May through September.
6. **Animal control ordinance** - The Selectboard voted in the proposed revisions to the Town's existing Animal Control ordinance on 11/4/2025. The revisions require dogs to be on a leash on any public trail maintained by the WTC. This does not apply when the dog is on its owner's property that the public trail crosses. See the ordinance at <https://wilmingtonvermont.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Animal-Control-Ordinance.pdf>. There is a 45-day petition period allowed (this ends on 12/19/2025) after which, if no petition occurs, the ordinance takes effect 60 days after being voted by the Selectboard.
7. **Financial Report** – Have \$4,021.81 remaining from the 1% fund. Don't need to ask for the 1% yet, but will need to decide if we are going to make any changes – e.g. increase for fundraising. Going forward need to send all expenses to Elynn. Will need to revise the maps in 2026 to properly reflect the new HT&W.
8. **Hoot, Toot & Whistle (HTW) construction update** Based on what has been completed to date and planned for 2025, the budget would be at a negative \$21,465 due to additional expenses such as the culverts, so the parking lot was postponed to 2026. Permits for the wetlands are good for at least 3 more years. Concerned about

availability of grants in 2026 that we could qualify for. The team will be putting their heads together to see how we could reduce the costs of Segment 1 and get it done in 2026.

9. **HTW Fundraising efforts** – Donations are tax deductible. Emailed receipts to the folks that requested them and modified the Thank you Email to include a receipt going forward. Will send receipts to all other donors early January.

10. **Work Bee plans/priorities** – Next Workbee December 27th at noon Raponda Ridge

11. **Health & Safety** – nothing to do

12. New Business:

- Think about e-Bike policy
- Need to recruit another committee member

13. Action Items:

Elynn: Send link to google docs to Daltyn, Send tax receipts out to donors, Create list of websites and emails, Review donors to determine best addresses to follow up, Send email to friends of WTC and article for Raponda Foundation about next hike/workbee

Alan: Update content on the HT&W page

All: Send Elynn copies of all invoices/expenses going forward.

Joanne made a motion to adjourn at 7:06 Jo motion to adjourn. Carol seconded. All in favor

Next Meeting: January 8th at 5:30

Respectfully submitted,

Elynn Lebron