

Wilmington Trail Committee
Thursday, May 14, 2026 - 5:30 PM
Town Hall Meeting Room

Members present: Carol Bois, Elynn Lebron, Bob Fisher (Zoom), Joanne Yankura (Zoom) and Jeff Menges

Alternates present: [none]

Public Members present: Steven Burnley, Dalton Hurley, Melanie Winters, Dalton's Scoutmaster

Meeting was called to order at 5:32pm

1. **Changes to the agenda:** None
2. **Public Comments:** None
3. **Approve minutes** from 4/9/2026 – Bob made a motion to approve, Elynn seconded, all in favor.
4. **Eagle Scout Project:** Dalton had some paperwork for the committee to sign related to his Eagle Scout project underway and provided plans for two additional new plaques that outline the history of Harriman Reservoir and Mountain Mills for WTC to review.
5. **Town plan** – Windham Regional Committee coordinator Sue Westa asked WTC to submit our writeup by May 15th. The Grafton Town Plan has a good trails section we may want to review in making reservations.
6. **Mowing Update:** Bob to put up a marker on Shearer Hill trail as to where they need to mow. Needs to be a little further than last year. Also need to clarify what they are mowing around the water covering the access road, related to the beaver dam now present at Raponda Ridge; also Joanne and/or Carol requested White Acre Farm, Inc. (mowers) to let us know when they go out so we can verify mowing locations on the Hoot, Toot & Whistle trail access points.
7. **Financial Report:** Had approximately \$3,100 remaining in the 1% fund. Spent \$350 on an ad in the Deerfield Valley News, \$809 on bags as a gift at the ceremony and around \$110 on mailing supplies. Game of Logging has a session the end of June that Jeff is going to register. Carol made a motion, amended by Bob, to have Jeff go to safety training for \$500 plus expenses (gas and lodging). Elynn seconded, all in favor. Elynn to confirm timing of fiscal year since some items being reported were from May 2025.
8. Possible new Committee member: Steven Burnley provided some information on his background, he retired a month ago. Will be a full time resident of Wilmington shortly. He's an outdoor enthusiast and wants to give back to community by becoming active on the WTC. Trail Committee members voted unanimously to have Steve apply to be a new trail member; noted he would need to be appointed by the Selectboard. Steve will send a short background to Jessica Archambault to get on the next Selectboard agenda.
9. **Hoot, Toot & Whistle (HTW) update:**
 - Re-opening: Jeff, Carol and Gretchen Havreluk to attend the Rec Committee meeting at 4pm Monday 5/18. Carol added John Gannon to the invitees. Elynn to reach out to VOREC and Rotary to confirm if anyone is attending. Jill Sachs is available to

come and sing; there is a cost (approximately \$300); she will provide the mic/speaker system we need. Elynn to provide tents for cover in case it rains. Will be an article and ad in the Deerfield Valley News this week. Plan to print the new map (Carol had Jessica A. complete 50) and put it in the bags.

- Oil spill: still an odor on the trail; VT DEC has asked owner of adjacent property to trail to remove some oil-impacted soil. Carol/Joanne had walked the trail and this appeared to have been done and covered with mulch.
- Parking area was completed by Marshall Dix (Highway Dept.).
- Fundraising: The rest of the fundraising postcards were mailed. Rails to Trails Grant was sent to Gretchen for submission, but won't know anything till the fall. Have not heard back from the Hermitage.

10. Work Bee plans/priorities – Joanne to go out on HT&W with chainsaw this weekend and leaf blower/broom, Sunday at 8am with Elynn. Raponda Ridge, Carol to check out the washout/beaver dam issue.

11. New Business:

- June 10th Brattleboro Retreat “Elevating the Outdoor Economy in Southern Vermont” from 2-5 pm. Carol will try to attend for WTC.
- June 11th from 6-7:30 pm Jeff Nugent is speaking about the “Mountains of Windham County” at the VT Museum of Natural History series being held at Vermont Distillers at Hogback.

Action Items post ceremony:

Jeff: Register for Game of Logging

Elynn: Update eNewsletter flyers.

Carol: Discuss donation from the Hermitage with Josh DeBottis. Clarify where mowing needs to happen around the river on the HT&W and Raponda Ridge. Send Town Plan info for feedback and submit to Planning Commission. Comment on Tim Dolan's Bi-Town Trail draft flyer.

Joanne: To take a look at Grafton Town Plan.

Bob: Put up a marker on Shearer Hill as to where they need to mow.

Carol made a motion to adjourn at 6:43pm. Joanne seconded. All in favor.

Next Meeting: June 11th at 5:15 pm

Respectfully submitted, Elynn Lebron